

Soviets propose freeze on chemicals

GENEVA (R) — The Soviet Union on Tuesday repeated that it would declare a moratorium on production of chemical arms if the United States renounced plans to resume producing such weapons next year. Viktor Israelyan, chief Soviet delegate at a 40-nation disarmament conference, said Moscow would agree to a freeze if it covered a planned new generation of binary, or two-chamber, chemical arms planned by the Reagan administration next year. "The Soviet Union would be prepared, as a step towards the elimination of chemical weapons, to agree to declare, together with the U.S., a mutual moratorium on the production and deployment of chemical weapons," he told a news conference. But he added that this must be "on the understanding, of course, that such a moratorium would be comprehensive and would cover binary chemical weapons as well."

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Dajani reinstates use of seatbelts

AMMAN (J.T.) — Drivers of small — public and private — cars and passengers occupying front seats should use seatbelts on all roads in the Kingdom as of Jan. 1, 1987, according to regulations issued by Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani on Tuesday. The minister also issued orders to the Licensing Department banning registration of all public and private cars unless they are provided with seatbelts and a headrest for the driver. According to the new regulations, drivers violating the new order would be liable for punishment under Traffic Law Number 69. Mr. Dajani instructed the concerned authorities to carry out an awareness campaign about the need for using seatbelts from now and until the application of the new regulations. The regulations for compulsory use of seatbelts came into effect under the former Cabinet of Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat but it was later scrapped under the government of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on condition that seatbelts remain to be in use along highways.

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Committees set up for developing Karak-Tafilah region

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has set up seven working committees to study a report by a Japanese team on a regional development plan for the Karak-Tafilah region in southern Jordan. Mr. Rifai requested that recommendations on the report be submitted to the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, and a time be fixed for its implementation by the ministry in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning. One of the committees will be headed by the director general of the Water Authority of Jordan and will deal with water projects. Other committees will tackle agriculture, human resources, education, industry and mining and tourism, transport and communications, energy and housing.

Saudi team arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — A Saudi Arabian economic delegation arrived here Tuesday to take part in meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Saudi Arabian Committee opening on Wednesday. The Saudi team is led by Mr. Usama Al Faqih, under-secretary of the Ministry of Finance, who said upon arrival that the meeting would be dedicated for discussing what had been achieved in the drive to achieve economic coordination and increasing trade between Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

Soviets renew call for conference

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow has renewed its call for an international conference on the Middle East, with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the official news agency TASS reported. At a lunch on Monday in honour of visiting Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary Kamel Hassan Al Mansour, Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze stressed the need for an effective preparatory committee for such a forum, including the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. On Lebanon, Mr. Shevardnadze said Israeli aggression must be ended and a constructive dialogue be started within the country. He reiterated Soviet proposals for the withdrawal of the Soviet and U.S. navies from the Mediterranean.

Fahd dismisses Petromin chief

DAMMAM (R) — King Fahd on Tuesday dismissed the governor of Saudi Arabia's state oil company Petromin. Riyadh Radio reported, the second major oil figure in the kingdom to be fired in two months. Abdul Hadi Taher, governor of the Saudi Petroleum and Minerals Organisation, Petromin, since it was established in 1962, had been asked "to retire," the radio said. No reason was given. Long-serving Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani was dismissed by King Fahd on Oct. 29 after apparent differences over the kingdom's oil policy.

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Jordan and Iraq agree to strengthen ties in all fields

Rifai returns after signing minutes of meetings and delivering King's message

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

JORDAN AND Iraq on Tuesday signed two protocols to boost cooperation in trade, economy, energy, industry, transportation and finance.

The first agreement, in the form of minutes of meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Higher Committee over the last four days, was signed by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and member of the Revolutionary Command Council Taha Yassin Ramadan.

Mr. Rifai returned to Amman Tuesday evening after the higher committee meetings and the signing ceremony. During his stay in Baghdad, the prime minister also delivered a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Industry and Trade Minister Rajai Al Munasher and Iraqi Transport and Communications

Minister Abdul Jabbar Abdul Rahim Al Asadi signed related documents concerning, among other things, increase and diversification of trade exchanges and the establishment of joint companies in the industrial field.

In the minutes, the two countries agreed on expanding the scope of economic and trade cooperation between them providing for an increase in and diversification of the volume of trade exchanged between the two countries to up to \$800 million in the year 1987. They also agreed to allow the Iraqi Trade Centre in Amman and the Jordanian Trade Centre in Baghdad a quota of JD 25 million each for 1987. Jordan

agreed to supply Iraq with all its requirements of eggs during 1987, and between 3,500 and 6,000 tonnes of mixed cotton yarn.

The two sides underlined the importance of removing obstacles that impede the flow of national products into the market of the other, giving priority to imports of goods coming from either side and selling whatever is possible through their respective trade centres in Amman and Baghdad, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

The two countries also agreed to encourage the exchange of visits by trade delegations to sign agreements with companies and establishments dealing with trade and to go ahead with implementing a bilateral agreement signed between the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) and the Iraqi Establishment for the Distribution of Oil Products.

(Continued on page 4)

Shultz: Weakened Iran may negotiate with Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State George P. Shultz said Tuesday a weakened Iran might be willing to negotiate with Iraq an end to their six-year Gulf war.

Other U.S. officials confirmed, meanwhile, that the United States secretly provided Iraq with detailed reports about Iranian defences even while Tehran was purchasing American weapons with President Ronald Reagan's approval.

The information was derived from sensitive U.S. satellite reconnaissance photography and was useful to Iraqi pilots in their bombing raids on Iranian oil terminals and power plants, said an official on Monday who spoke only on condition that he not be identified.

Mr. Shultz said he was not "free to comment" on intelligence-sharing questions. But, appearing Tuesday on a U.S.-sponsored telecast to Europe, he offered an argument for weakening Iran way to force a negotiated settlement of the war.

"We think the principal recalcitrant party is Iran," he said. "So to the extent that Iran's military capabilities can be reduced that presumably would bring them to a frame of mind where they are willing to sit down with Iraq and try to reach an agreement."

Mr. Shultz said the Reagan administration was in favour of an agreement that maintains the territorial integrity of both countries "and doesn't have, so to speak, a winner or a loser."

Responding to questions from London, Bonn, Paris, Copenhagen and Rome, Mr.

Shultz ruled out further U.S. weapons sales to Tehran, which touched off a furor in Washington.

He said Mr. Reagan thought it was worthwhile "to send a small signal" that he wanted an improvement in relations. "No further signals are necessary or will be given," Mr. Shultz said. "The question of any further arms sales to Iran from the United States has been settled and there won't be any more under the present circumstances."

Mr. Shultz privately opposed the Iranian purchases in conversations with Mr. Reagan. The operation was carried out primarily by the National Security Council, with the State Department kept mostly in the dark.

"Perhaps one lesson of this Iran problem," he said, "is that that's a case where a piece of foreign policy was administered elsewhere and it would have been better if it had been in normal channels, in my opinion."

The disclosure of U.S. aid to Iraq in Monday's editions of the Washington Post added an ironic twist to the controversy over the secret U.S. arms shipments to so-called moderate elements in Tehran and the surreptitious diversion of profits to Nicaraguan rebels.

In effect, the United States was assisting both sides in the war while officially proclaiming its neutrality.

State Department spokesman Charles E. Redman, while refusing to discuss the report, insisted Monday that the administration's principal aim was to bring the war to a close "without victor or vanquished."

S. Arabia refutes reports of involvement in Iran deal

RIYADH (AP) — Saudi Arabia on Tuesday refuted speculation that it was involved in financing the controversial U.S.-Iran arms deal.

Citing an unidentified government official, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) rejected as "purely individual" the role played by Saudi business tycoon Adnan Khashoggi in financing the deal.

The Saudi government previously denied any involvement in the deal, and Tuesday's reiteration came in response to an interview by Mr. Khashoggi with the U.S. ABC television network.

"Truth imposes itself and demands that it be respected by the media... apart from the fact that citizen Khashoggi has denied any links between the kingdom and that deal," the agency quoted the official as saying.

Khashoggi also has affirmed that he had undertaken certain contacts and action in this (arms deal) connection on a purely individual basis that the kingdom never approved, it said.

"The kingdom does not need to defend itself against false charges based on mere speculation... officials here have repeatedly and categorically denied any involvement by the kingdom in this suspicious arms deal and its ramifications," the official said.

(Continued on page 4)

Reagan seeks limited immunity for North and Poindexter in Iran case

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan on Tuesday urged Congress to grant limited immunity from prosecution to two former White House aides in exchange for their testimony on the Iran arms scandal.

"It is the president's desire to have the full story about Iran come out now," White House spokesman Larry Speakes said in a statement.

"The president is asking the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence to seek 'use immunity' for Poindexter and North in order that the whole truth and all the facts on Iran may be told," he said.

Vice Admiral John Poindexter resigned as Mr. Reagan's national security adviser and his top aide, Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North,

was fired on Nov. 25, the day the administration announced that proceeds from secret White House arms sales to Iran had been diverted to U.S.-backed rebels fighting the government of Nicaragua.

Col. North and Adm. Poindexter so far have cited their rights against possible self-incrimination in refusing to answer questions before congressional committees.

"Use immunity" provides that testimony given to congress cannot be used later as evidence in a court of law against those granted that protection.

On Tuesday, White House Chief of Staff Donald T. Regan appeared before the Senate committee, which is eager to learn who authorised the diversion of Iranian arms sale profits.

Meanwhile, the members of a special Senate committee to investigate the Iran-contra affair were announced and the White House confirmed reports that several members of the president's National Security Council (NSC) had resigned.

The council was at the heart of the clandestine arms sales and contra funding.

Mr. Regan, the first of four cabinet-level officials scheduled to testify before the committee this week, entered the committee's closed hearing room without commenting to reporters.

The White House, apparently attempting to show the president

Nakasone denies part in U.S.-Iran deal; Meese to share data with Canada, page 2

Nablus students stage protest

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinian students protested at a university in Nablus on Tuesday against the killing of four young Arabs by Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank in the last two weeks, reports said.

The protests were staged at An Najah University when the biggest West Bank campus reopened to more than 4,000 students Tuesday morning. It had been closed for a week by the Israeli occupation authorities during a wave of Palestinian protests.

University Vice-President Abdul Latif Agel, interviewed by telephone from the campus, told Reuter students chanted Palestinian slogans and troops fired two tear-gas bombs at them.

He said the students had barricaded themselves inside the campus which was surrounded by the army.

In Tel Aviv, an army spokeswoman said small groups of students had burned tyres.

An Najah is regarded as a bastion of Palestinian nationalism, along with Birzeit University, where troops shot dead two students earlier this month. The incident triggered the most widespread West Bank protests since 1982.

An Israeli member of parliament has called for an investigation into reports by Israeli soldiers that Jewish settlers have been harassing Palestinian residents in the occupied West Bank town of Hebron.

Ran Cohen of the left-wing Citizens Rights Movement said army reservist Israelis complained that settlers provoked Arabs praying at the Tomb of the Patriarchs, the burial site of the Biblical Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

"The army in all these incidents must run to the scene," Mr. Cohen said on Israel television. "In the end, our soldiers are not only witnesses to what is happening, but are forced in the circumstances to protect the provocative activities of the settlers."

CAIRO (AP) — Security

authorities announced Tuesday a series of arrests that broke up an underground group whose aim was to overthrow the government and set up a Communist regime.

A spokesman at the Interior Ministry, which is responsible for public order, said 44 people, mostly professionals, were imprisoned and another three were being sought by police.

The spokesman, who cannot be identified under ministry rules, said detainees include the top leaders of the group, which called itself the Revolutionary Tide.

He identified the top man as Abdul Monem Telema, a professor at Cairo University's School of Arts. It was the third alleged coup conspiracy the government has claimed to have aborted since September. The previous two allegedly involved Muslim fundamentalists seeking to set up a theocratic government in Egypt.

He said some members of the group played a role in food riots in Cairo and other cities in 1977 that resulted in deaths of more than 100 people. The riots were

Fresh Beirut battles undermine chances for Amal-PLO accord

MAGHDOUSHEH, Lebanon (Agencies) — Palestinian fighters loyal to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat kept their grip on the strategic South Lebanese village of Maghdousheh on Tuesday, while their comrades battled the Shi'ite Amal militia attacking two refugee camps in Beirut.

The new fighting was a setback to Iranian efforts to secure a Palestinian withdrawal from the Maghdousheh in return for an end to the siege of refugee camps by the Amal militia.

Palestinian sources in Beirut reported rocket and machine-gun battles at the Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh shantytowns, and said Amal was massing men and tanks around them.

There was no word on casualties in the latest fighting. The 11-week-old camps war has claimed about 700 lives so far.

In Maghdousheh, a mostly Christian village overlooking the sprawling Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp near Sidon, witnesses told Reuter well-armed PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) fighters were still entrenched in sandbagged positions they re-occupied on Saturday in defiance of an Iranian peace plan.

"If our command says we should withdraw, then we will," said one fighter in a group drinking tea in the rubble-strewn village streets. "We trust Abu Ammar's (Mr. Arafat) judgment."

The PLO announced on Monday from Baghdad that it would leave the village if Amal lifted a blockade of refugee camps in Beirut and South Lebanon.

Palestinian fighters danced and played bagpipes, chanting pro-Arafat songs, when news of the PLO statement arrived.

On Tuesday, they were seen playing cards and chatting with pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) militiamen who are due to replace them if the Iranian-mediated peace plan goes ahead.

Hizbollah men occupied part of the village last week under a partially-successful truce. Iranian flags and giant portraits of Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini mark their positions.

Libyan call

Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi on Tuesday urged the Palestinian fighters to hold out in Maghdousheh until Amal lifted

the siege of refugee camps in Lebanon, the Libyan news agency reported.

"Occupying Maghdousheh and threatening the enemy is the only winning card the Palestinian hand right now," the JANA agency quoted Colonel Qadhafi as saying in a statement issued in Tripoli.

JANA, quoted the Libyan leader as saying: "I call (on the Palestinians) not to withdraw and hold out until Maghdousheh until the siege of the camps is lifted."

Col. Qadhafi's comments appeared to undercut the ceasefire negotiations being held in Damascus by Iranian, Libyan and Syrian officials to end the "camps war."

One of the mediators was Col. Qadhafi's deputy, Major Abdul Salam Jalloud.

Amal has demanded that Palestinians pull out of Maghdousheh. The withdrawal demand has been the main stumbling block in ceasefire efforts.

The Libyan leader's stand also appeared to put him at odds with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

(Continued on page 4)

'Camps' war gives Palestinians first victory since 1982, page 4

Iraq quota dispute stalls OPEC efforts

GENEVA (R) — Gulf leaders and OPEC ministers held intensive bilateral talks on Tuesday to persuade Iraq to accept an oil production quota in a package of cuts aimed at raising world oil prices to \$18 a barrel.

Delegates said it was vital that Iraq join other members of the 13-nation oil exporters' group in cutting production to take the slack out of an over-supplied market so as to lift prices by about \$3 a barrel.

Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) ministers Tuesday evening postponed until Wednesday talks due to have started Tuesday afternoon because of the obstacles to a united front posed by Iraq, delegates said.

They said delay was needed to see if progress had been made in bilateral talks at the conference and in top-level contacts between Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

News of the postponement knocked about 25 cents a barrel off free market oil prices. The

widely-traded Brent blend of crude was quoted at around \$15.80 a barrel, after being above \$16 earlier on Tuesday.

Oil prices had been rising steadily since OPEC started its talks a week ago in what was seen as new spirit of solidarity and determination to cut output and raise prices.

But the dispute over allocating Iraq a quota, a spinoff of its bitter six-year war with Iran, injected a sudden note of pessimism into European and U.S. crude trading, traders said.

OPEC conference President Rikwan Lukman of Nigeria held two rounds of talks with Iraqi Oil Minister Qassem Ahmad Taqi on Tuesday, but Mr. Taqi said Iraq would not budge from its demand for a quota equal to that of Iran.

Such a quota would exceed the volume which Iraq has been allowed under past OPEC agreements.

"We insist on having a quota the same as Iran, not one single barrel

less," Mr. Taqi told reporters. "That is our position and it is firm," he said.

The Saudi Press Agency said Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz paid a lightning visit to Saudi Arabia with a message to King Fahd from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

No details were given, but it was widely assumed at the Geneva talks that it was linked to the Iraqi quota issue, which threatens to scuttle OPEC's quest for higher oil prices.

A senior Iraqi delegate said Baghdad might be willing to make voluntary cuts from its present output of 1.75 to two million barrels per day (bpd) as a gesture of solidarity with OPEC, while refusing to accept a formal quota.

Iraq ignores a 1984 quota of 1.2 million bpd and demands the same allocation as Iran, currently 2.317 million bpd. "If we're given no quota, then we'll cooperate to help reach \$18," the Iraqi official said.

CAIRO (AP) — Security

authorities announced Tuesday a series of arrests that broke up an underground group whose aim was to overthrow the government and set up a Communist regime.

A spokesman at the Interior Ministry, which is responsible for public order, said 44 people, mostly professionals, were imprisoned and another three were being sought by police.

The spokesman, who cannot be identified under ministry rules, said detainees include the top leaders of the group, which called itself the Revolutionary Tide.

He identified the top man as Abdul Monem Telema, a professor at Cairo University's School of Arts. It was the third alleged coup conspiracy the government has claimed to have aborted since September. The previous two allegedly involved Muslim fundamentalists seeking to set up a theocratic government in Egypt.

He said some members of the group played a role in food riots in Cairo and other cities in 1977 that resulted in deaths of more than 100 people. The riots were

triggered by sudden increases in food prices, part of economic reforms recommended by the International Monetary Fund, which were revoked after the riots.

The spokesman said 23 leading members, the group's executive committee, were arrested during a meeting at an apartment in Cairo's Giza district that Prof. Telema had "acted as a headquarters. The other 21 were arrested in a nationwide dragnet covering Cairo and six other provinces, he added.

He said the meeting was last Friday. Cairo's government-owned media have not mentioned the arrests, but two opposition newspapers reported them in brief articles.

"The meeting at the apartment discussed plans for future movement by the group within the masses in order to drum up support in the quest to attain the ultimate, strategic objective of setting up a Communist system of government in the country," the spokesman said in a statement.

Asked whether this meant the

group's aim was to overthrow the government, the spokesman replied: "Of course."

Egyptian citizens are free to embrace Communism as a personal ideology, but the law forbids formation of Communist parties and any activity that propagates the ideology. Communist groups have operated underground since the monarchy that Gamal Abdul Nasser overthrew in a 1952 coup.

The spokesman traced the Telema group's history to the early 1960s. He said it strongly opposed Mr. Nasser's crackdown on local Communists, which he undertook despite his close ties with the Soviet Union.

Mr. Nasser, who died in 1970, arrested some members of the group in 1964 and freed them later that year, the spokesman said.

"They surfaced again as instigators in the 1977 riots, and they resurrected their organisation after being released and named it the Revolutionary Tide," he added.

Witnesses said the army took up positions on Orangi's hillsides, which have been used by Pathans to shoot into the densely populated Mohajir neighbourhood below.

Thirteen blackened and unrecognisable corpses were brought in plastic bags from Orangi.

Doctors said altogether 25 bodies were brought to hospital morgues on Tuesday, making the total from three days of communal bloodshed at least 157.

President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo were forced to postpone a visit to the injured at the civil hospital after a protest by some 200 angry medical students, police sources said.

They said all the victims were Mohajirs.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin told Arab representatives in occupied Gaza on Tuesday that Israel was ready to negotiate with Arab residents of the occupied territories, but there was no local leadership willing to represent the Palestinian people, Israel Radio reported.

Israel refuses to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"Peace should come soon, the wars and the excessive spilling of blood should end. Meanwhile we have to look for a way to progress in economics and education, and ensure peace and security," Mr. Rabin said.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister

(Continued on page 4)

Nakasone denies part in U.S.-Iran arms scandal

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Tuesday denied any involvement in the widening Iranian arms scandal in the United States.

He told reporters there was no connection between the letters he sent to Iran's Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and the arms deal issue.

President Reagan has under heavy fire in the United States amid charges he sanctioned the sale of arms to Iran in return for its help in freeing American hostages held in Lebanon.

Mr. Nakasone said his letters called for the release of foreign hostages on humanitarian grounds and were sent after he consulted former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and the Foreign Ministry.

The prime minister said the Iranian parliamentary leader had pledged to make efforts to settle the hostage issue.

Foreign Ministry officials here have said Mr. Nakasone sent two envoys to Iran in August 1985 and January this year to deliver the letters, which asked Mr. Rafsanjani to use his influence to obtain the release of hostages held in Lebanon.

Mr. Nakasone said he had received a telephone call from President Ronald Reagan last summer, in which the U.S. leader said he was seriously worried about the hostage issue.

Earlier this month, Mr. Nakasone denied a Newsweek

magazine report that he delivered a letter from Mr. Reagan to Mr. Rafsanjani in July 1985, when the Iranian leader was visiting Japan, thanking him for his part in releasing hostages held aboard a Trans World Airlines aircraft in Beirut in June 1985.

Earlier Tuesday a former Japanese justice minister said the Japanese government initiated private contacts with Iran and Syria in summer 1985 in an effort to gain the release of American hostages in Lebanon.

The former official, Akira Hattori, said the attempt — which involved sending a secret diplomatic envoy to Iran and Syria — came after he personally suggested the idea to Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

In a telephone interview, Mr. Hattori disputed a published report that U.S. President Ronald Reagan had asked Mr. Nakasone to intercede in the hostage issue.

"It was our own idea, not a response to a U.S. request," he said, adding that a later telephone call from Mr. Reagan to Mr. Nakasone was "a thank you call, that's all."

"I thought that since Japan had good relations with Iran and Syria, such contact might be fruitful," Mr. Hattori said in the interview. "If those countries cooperated,

then Japan could in turn cooperate in the future, after the Iran-Iraq war, such as buying more oil from them, or increasing developmental aid."

Mr. Hattori said he did not know whether the special envoy actually proposed stepping up Japan's purchases of oil or increasing reconstruction aid. It was only his personal opinion that these actions might ultimately result from the contact, he said.

Mr. Hattori said he first suggested the hostage plan to Mr. Nakasone in July, 1985, after Mr. Rafsanjani made an official visit to Japan.

Mr. Rafsanjani's five-day visit was described then as the first by an official of the Islamic revolutionary government, headed by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

U.S. officials have thought that possibly both Iran and Syria had influence with Shi'ite extremists in Lebanon who are believed to hold the hostages.

Mr. Hattori, who served 12 years in the Upper House of Japan's Diet (parliament), said that after Mr. Nakasone approved his suggestion of an initiative on behalf of the hostages, he requested and arranged a meeting with U.S. intelligence officers in Tokyo to gain information.

He refused to identify the intelligence officers or the organization.

The Japanese government, he said, then decided to dispatch



Yasuhiro Nakasone

Yoshihiro Nakayama, a former ambassador to France, on secret missions to Tehran and Damascus.

In late July, after Mr. Nakayama's mission was set up but before he actually departed, Mr. Hattori said, Mr. Reagan phoned Mr. Nakasone to thank him for planning the trips.

"It was a thank you call, that's all," he said.

Mr. Nakasone, meanwhile, was quoted by Kyodo News Service on Tuesday as saying he received a call from Mr. Reagan — evidently the same one — while at Karuizawa, a resort near Tokyo in the summer of 1985.

According to Kyodo, he asked Mr. Reagan, "how have you been lately?" to which the president replied, "right now, I am most pained over the hostage problem." Mr. Nakasone gave no other details of the call.

Japan's efforts in the hostage affair first surfaced when Mr. Rafsanjani said in a Nov. 4 speech that Mr. Nakasone had written him asking that he exert his influence in gaining the release of American and French hostages held in Lebanon.

Libya steps up attacks on Goukouni's supporters

ABIDJAN (R) — Libyan forces have bombed rebels they once supported in the rugged Tibesti Mountains of northern Chad, according to a Chadian communiqué.

The communiqué, broadcast by state radio Monday night, said that after attacks last week, Libya was now heavily bombing Chadian "Patriotic Forces" at Wour, in the northern Tibesti region.

"All the northern zones are blindly and increasingly bombed," the radio said.

It added that the Patriotic forces, the phrase Chad's government uses to describe soldiers loyal to former rebel leader Goukouni Oueddei, were fighting with a total commitment to defeat the invaders.

The report suggests that Libya, which borders Chad to the north, is stepping up its efforts to defeat Mr. Goukouni's men, now allied with the troops of Chad President Hissene Habre.

On Saturday, a Paris spokesman for Mr. Goukouni's Popular Armed Forces (FAP) said Libya bombers and ground forces had attacked Wour, near the border with Niger. The attacks followed reported Libyan raids on Thursday on FAP positions around Bardai, another Tibesti town.

Libya has not commented on the alleged attacks nor on Chadian accusations that it is using napalm and carrying out "systematic genocide" against the inhabitants of Chad's northern desert regions.

Mr. Goukouni, who once ruled Chad and is now reported to be under house arrest in Libya's capital, Tripoli, recently threw his support behind Mr. Habre.

Libya now backs another faction of the rebel Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT), headed by Achicheh Ibn Omar.

Mr. Habre has urged France, Chad's former coloniser, to provide military backing to enable him to push Libyan troops from northern Chad. France has 1,200 men in Chad and has sent Jaguar bombers and an air defence system to the capital, N'Djamena.

It says its force is there in a purely defensive capacity and has so far refused to provide air cover to enable Mr. Habre's men to move north and join FAP soldiers in fighting Libya.

Chad complained in a letter published at the United Nations Monday that Libya had launched a new attack against Chadian forces, using napalm and poison gases.

In a letter to Security Council President Vernon Walters of the United States, Chad's U.N. envoy said Libyan troops last Thursday launched a large-scale airborne and ground attack "against positions held by Chadian Patriotic Forces at Bardai."

Lawyer urges Israeli court to reveal evidence against Palestinian editor

TEL AVIV (R) — A lawyer for Palestinian newspaper editor Akram Haniyeh appealed to the supreme court Tuesday to make public evidence that the military authorities say warrants Mr. Haniyeh's deportation from the occupied West Bank.

Mr. Haniyeh, editor of the Arab East Jerusalem newspaper Al Shaab (the people), was arrested last month on suspicion of being a senior member of the Fatah faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and using the newspaper's offices to organise PLO activities.

He is the first Palestinian editor ordered to be expelled for 14 years but Israel has deported 10 other Palestinians since it imposed a harsh policy in the West Bank in August 1985 after a series of commando attacks. The supreme court has upheld all deportation orders in recent memory.

"For the sake of justice, you must show us evidence that he was a senior commander of Fatah," lawyer Avigdor Feldman said.

Mr. Haniyeh's case is unusual because commando violence is not a reason given for his expulsion.

The court adjourned to review

secret prosecution evidence and determine whether it would remain confidential.

Well-wishers hugged and kissed the 33-year-old editor during the recess until Israeli security men dispersed the crowd.

During an earlier, lower court session, Mr. Haniyeh was accused of organising commercial strikes and student demonstrations and involvement in funding activities for the PLO.

"Mr. Haniyeh is a journalist who is doing his duty and because he represents the aspirations of his people, he is paying the price," Hanna Siniora, editor of the Palestinian daily Al Fair, told Reuters.

Mr. Siniora said Tuesday's hearing would be a "youthful discussion of procedures, not substance."

"I base my opinion on the record of the court," he said.

Ali Ya'ish, general manager of Al Shaab, told Reuters he could not comment on Tuesday's hearing at the order of Israeli authorities.

Mr. Haniyeh last month appealed his expulsion order

viewed by Palestinian journalists as an attempt to intimidate the Palestinian press.

The military accused Mr. Haniyeh of being a senior member of the PLO and using the newspaper's offices to organise PLO activities.

The supreme court last month issued a temporary order barring Mr. Haniyeh's deportation and gave military authorities two weeks to explain their decision.

Mr. Haniyeh's lawyer, Felicia Langer, told Reuters: "It's something that hasn't been done before — to bore into the den of intellectuals who only engage in political activity. It could be the beginning of mass deportations."

Anger over what Palestinians call increased Israeli harassment of nationalist activists recently unleashed the worst wave of anti-Israeli unrest in recent years in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Four Palestinians died and 25 were wounded when troops dispersed youths who blocked roads with burning tyres and threw stones at Israeli cars to protest at 19 years of Israeli occupation.

Iran demands release of ship held in Italy

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran Tuesday urged Italian authorities to release an Iranian cargo ship held at the north western port of Genoa because a stayaway on board asked for political asylum.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said Italy's ambassador to Tehran, Giuseppe Badocci, was summoned to the Iranian Foreign Ministry at 1 a.m. Tuesday (2030 GMT Monday) and handed a protest which held the Rome government "responsible for the consequences" of any delay in releasing the Iran Jihad.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said Iran's ambassador to Italy Gholam-Ali Heidari called on the Italian Foreign Ministry Monday and demanded the government's intervention to

allow the ship to sail.

The ship, with an unknown cargo, has been berthed in Genoa since Dec. 4. Port workers have prevented it from sailing because a 22-year-old Iranian, identified as Amir Albohio Beish Maksari, has sought asylum in Italy.

The Italian News Agency AGI reported that officials from the Italian Foreign Ministry, the Red Cross and the United Nations have intervened. But the captain of the ship has refused to let Maksari leave.

IRNA said Iran's Acting Foreign Minister Ali M. Besharati handed the Italian ambassador the protest which described the reasons for holding the ship as "imaginary and unacceptable."

Mr. Besharati told the ambassador that Italian police and

port officials "illegally" boarded the ship and insisted on giving Maksari "compulsory political asylum," the agency said.

He added that the ship was considered Iranian territory, and that boarding it in this fashion was a flagrant violation of international regulations and an interference in an issue "totally irrelevant to Italy."

"No doubt this issue is intolerable for the Islamic Republic, and Iran will react to it," the Iranian agency quoted him as saying.

Relations between Iran and Italy were strained last month after Italy's state television aired a comedy sketch in which Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was mocked.

Tehran paper calls U.K. mission 'den of spies'

TEHRAN (R) — An Iranian newspaper Tuesday called the British diplomatic post in Tehran a "den of spies" — the label given the U.S. embassy when it was taken over by militant students in 1979.

Britain closed its embassy at the time of the takeover, citing "security reasons," and now has an interest section operating from the Swedish embassy.

"It has now been proven that the British interests section is the centre for coordination of espionage and sabotage activities of armed and unarmed British spies in Iran — in fact it is another 'den of spies'," Islamic Republic newspaper said in an editorial.

Islamic Republic, organ of the Islamic Republican Party, usually reflects mainstream thinking on Iranian foreign policy.

It urged Iranian authorities to watch the activities of Britons more closely and not to allow Iran to become "an arena for mischief by wounded colonialists."

The paper cited the cases of Roger Cooper and Nicolas Yiamis Nicola, currently detained here, as evidence of British designs on Iran.

Cooper, a businessman, was arrested more than a year ago and Iranian officials said last week that he was a master spy who would eventually be put on trial.

Iran's National News Agency IRNA has said Nicola, arrested last month while allegedly shooting at Pakistani guards across Iran's south eastern border, was sent by London to foment clashes in the area.

A spokesman for the British interests section said he believed Nicola was mentally disturbed, and they were awaiting permission from Iranian authorities to visit both men.

Islamic Republic said the British interests section was more active than most foreign embassies. It called for its staff, which it said numbered "close to 100," to be trimmed to at least

the size of the Iranian mission in London.

The British spokesman said there were 23 British nationals in the interests section — 18 London-based Foreign Office staff, and five wives who worked in the consular section.

Israel 'held back' raids to aid U.S.

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Tuesday Israeli pilots had refrained from bombing alleged guerrilla bases in Lebanon in order to help the United States free its hostages.

He made the remarks when asked to confirm newspaper reports that Israel had held back from raiding Iranian-backed Hizbollah militants it views as among its greatest enemies in Lebanon to aid the controversial U.S. deal.

Former U.S. envoy recounts CIA 'kidnapping' to Libya

By Jeremiah O'Leary
The Washington Times

William A. Wilson, who was President Reagan's first ambassador to the Vatican, has told several friends he was kidnapped by the CIA in December 1985 and flown from Rome to Libya for secret talks with Colonel Muammar Qadhafi.

Mr. Wilson, one of the president's closest friends, said he had authorised since 1981 to act as a "back channel" to carry out intelligence and diplomatic missions for the president.

But Mr. Wilson, who resigned as ambassador last May, said he never intended to go to Libya.

Asked in a telephone interview why he did not protest being taken against his will to Libya at a time when the United States was attempting to isolate Col. Qadhafi's regime, Mr. Wilson said, "it was too late then..."

The "kidnapping" story, which has reached the ears of first lady Nancy Reagan and several Reagan intimates, is that Mr. Wilson set out in November 1985 to fly from Rome to Tunis — a flight of about 30 minutes duration — to visit Giovanni Agnelli, head of FIAT, a company that at one time was 15 per cent owned by Libya.

Instead, he has told a number of friends, he found himself in Tripoli, the Libyan capital, 90

minutes later.

It was Col. Qadhafi who revealed the secret visit from the Vatican envoy in June 1986...

Col. Qadhafi told reporters the meeting with Mr. Wilson was requested through an unidentified Italian ambassador and that he conferred with Mr. Wilson in a tent.

His attempt at personal diplomacy with Col. Qadhafi led to a reprimand from Secretary of State George P. Shultz. The State Department said it was an "embarrassment."

He was said to have been asked to resign by both White House and State Department officials. Mr. Wilson left the job in May 1986.

U.S. to share Iran arms data

TORONTO (AP) — U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese has assured his Canadian counterpart that he will share all available details on the Canadian middlemen connected with the sale of U.S. arms to Iran.

Canadian Attorney General Ray Hnatyshyn informed parliament that Mr. Meese gave the assurance in a telephone conversation, after Canada sent a protest note to the U.S. State Department on Friday, complaining about being kept

Witness says Abu Nidal member killed Ziad Sati

ANKARA (R) — A key murder trial witness said Tuesday he knew the alleged killer of a Jordanian diplomat in Ankara as a member of the Abu Nidal Palestinian extremist organisation, the semi-official Anatolian agency reported.

Palestinian student Rafet Shaban said he met Abdul Salam Al Haj, an absent defendant said by the prosecutor to have shot Jordanian Embassy First Secretary Ziad Al Sati in November 1984.

"He introduced himself as being a member of the Abu Nidal organisation, and said he was working in its military wing," he said he came to Turkey for an operation," Shaban was quoted as telling the court.

Nine people were indicted at the state security court last month over Mr. Sati's killing but charges against Adnan Musa Suleiman Ammarin, a Jordanian Embassy employee, were dropped because he had diplomatic immunity.

The court on Tuesday also decided to drop the case against Mohammad Darwish Baladi, a Syrian diplomat alleged by the prosecution to have masterminded the murder, after the Turkish Foreign Ministry confirmed his diplomatic status.

Shaban said Haj acquired two handguns by December 1984 and the operation was planned by four of the defendants, including Haj.

He said he heard of the Sati murder when he was in Jordan in the summer of 1985.

One of the other defendants, Bassem Lutfi, met him later. "He said the job went easily," Shaban said.

The witness also alleged that Ammarin had tried to kill him because of what he knew about the Sati murder. Ammarin was not released after he was dropped from the case because, court officials said, he faced other charges, including involvement in an attempt to kill Shaban.

Sharaa: Abu Nidal is not in Syria

ROME (AP) — Palestinian extremist leader Abu Nidal has not been in Syria in years and his office in Damascus is subject to strict controls and restrictions, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa was quoted as saying Tuesday.

Mr. Sharaa spoke in interviews in Damascus with the Italian newspapers Il Messaggero and L'Unita. Mr. Sharaa, who denied that Syria was involved in international terrorism, was asked why his government allows Abu Nidal to maintain offices in Damascus.

"The Syrian and the Palestinian causes are the same and all the Palestinian factions have offices in Damascus," he was quoted as saying.

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TV & RADIO WHAT'S GOING ON FOR THE TRAVELLER USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:45	Cartoons
16:10	Children's programme
16:35	Sports programme
17:00	Third Minute Sports
17:30	A tale of two cities
18:00	Lottery
18:30	Arabic series
19:00	Local programme
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Message from Cairo
20:50	Arabic series
21:05	Wrestling
21:20	News in Arabic
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	Des chiffres et des lettres
18:30	Cathédrale
19:00	News in French
19:15	Aujourd'hui en Jordanie
19:45	News in Hebrew
20:00	Variétés
20:30	News in Arabic
20:50	Third Minute Sports
21:05	Documentary — Architecture at the Crossroads
21:30	The Heir (eps. 3)
21:50	News in English
22:00	Reunions (Eps. 2)
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & party on 95.60 KHz. SW Tel: 77411-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsweek
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
08:45	Morning Show Contd.
11:00	Songs from Movies
11:30	Country Music
11:50	News Summary
12:00	News Summary
12:30	Guide to the Galaxy
12:45	Pop Session
13:00	News Summary
13:30	Pop Session
14:00	News Summary
14:15	News Bulletin
14:30	Your Health
14:45	Concert Hour
15:00	News Summary
15:30	News Summary
15:45	Old Favorites
16:00	Jordan Weekly
16:30	Pop Session
16:45	News Summary
16:50	Women in Music Masters and Music
17:00	News
17:30	Music
17:50	Dance with a Star

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of architectural paintings of Iraq Al Amir by Francis Larche and Jean-Pierre Lange at the Architecture Gallery — Reya Centre, Jabel Amman (until Jan. 10).

* A cultural exhibition by the Islamic charitable society of Hebron (lectures, books, traditional embroidery) at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 24).

SOVIET FILMS

* Soviet film festival at the Soviet Cultural Centre (until Dec. 24).

VIDEO

* "Portraits de femmes Mediascope" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre: Tel. 661026/7
 American Centre: 644371
 American Cultural Library: 641520
 British Council: 636147/8
 French Cultural Centre: 637009
 Gothic Institute: 641993
 Soviet Cultural Centre: 644203
 Spanish Cultural Centre: 624049
 Turkish Cultural Centre: 639777
 Hays Arts Centre: 655195
 Hawthorn Youth City: 667816/6
 Y.W.C.A.: 641793
 Y.W.M.C.A.: 646251
 Amman Municipal Library: 637111
 University of Jordan Library: 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also movies from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. — 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Osta (Closed 4:00 p.m.). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Jordanian artists from most of the Muslim

countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mumazzeh, Jabel Lweishdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. — 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 5 a.m.—4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 662440.

Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as commensal weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.
 Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabel Lweishdeh, Tel. 637440.
 De la Saule Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Hussein, Tel. 661757.
 Terzina Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Lweishdeh, mass in Italian language, mass every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366.
 Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Ajlun, Tel. 623544.
 Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabel Amman, Tel. 678906.
 Armenian Catholic Church: Ajlun. Tel. 771531.
 Armenian Orthodox Church: Ajlun. Tel. 775261.
 St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ajlun. Tel. 771751.
 Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): near the Southern Baptist School in Shamsiyya, Tel. 677534.
 Evangelical Church of Jabel Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811285.
 Ecumenical Congregation (International, Inter-denominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman, Tel. 665974.

PRAYER TIMES

6:55	_____	Fajr
06:31	_____	(Sunrise) Duha
11:52	_____	Zuhur
12:52	_____	'Asr
16:32	_____	Maghrib
18:00	_____	Isha

Dajani pays inspection visit to Jordan Valley

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani on Tuesday made inspection visits to Deir Alla and South Shuneh in the Jordan Valley where he met with representatives of the local inhabitants to hear their demands, requests and views on government projects and public services.

Mr. Dajani urged the local inhabitants to increase their cooperation with local governments in their region with the purpose of overcoming problems impeding the implementation of development projects. Referring to agricultural production, the minister said that the government was pursuing efforts to find new foreign markets for Jordan's products.

Some obstacles have lately emerged obstructing the marketing of Jordanian agricultural crops in Arab countries because many Arab states have started their own production and Lebanon has banned the entry of Jordan's products, the minister said. He urged farmers to commit themselves to the agricultural

pattern system and to improve the quality of production to ensure markets for their produce.

Mr. Dajani and representatives of the local inhabitants discussed road accidents and incidents involving children drowning in the East Ghor Canal in addition to spraying insecticides in the region.

Addressing the meeting was Mijhem Khreisha, the governor of Balqa, who spoke about efforts being made by the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) to develop lands and the facilities and help it has extended to farmers.

Representatives of municipal and village councils also spoke, presenting their views on public services, communications, education, health and marketing crops.

The minister later visited the Prince Mohammad Bridge across the River Jordan where he talked to security officials at the police post to discuss services provided to travellers to and from the occupied West Bank. He also visited the East Ghor Canal and was briefed on irrigation projects in the valley.

Symposium opens in Aqaba

AQABA (Petra) — A three-day symposium on strategic planning in agricultural research and the transfer of information and know-how opened in Aqaba on Tuesday.

Under Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture Salem Al Lawzi, who deputised for Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud in opening the meeting, spoke of the need for stepping up research in agricultural fields and for promoting the role of agricultural

extension services to help maintain the momentum of developing Jordan's agriculture. Dr. Lawzi spoke about the Ministry of Agriculture's efforts over the past three decades to improve agricultural production and to develop rain-fed and irrigated lands. Developing agriculture in rain-fed regions needs advanced technology and high skills and this requires further research work, the results of which should be passed on to farmers, Dr. Lawzi added.

JEA moves ahead with project to light main roads in Amman area

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) is steadily moving ahead with its streetlighting programme and most of the roads that surround the Amman region will have lights by April next year, according to a spokesman for the JEA.

The JD 1.75 million programme, currently under implementation, covers a total of 95 kilometres of roads in various areas outside Amman. Foremost among these is the already completed 35-kilometre main highway that leads to the Queen Alia International Airport. Lights were switched on the highway on Nov. 14, on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday.

Other completed projects in the programme are: — The main road between Wadi Al Seer and Sweileh and Sweileh and the University of Jordan Hospital; a total of 15 kilometres. — A stretch of eight kilometres between the Sports City and the Ain Al Ghazal interchange along the Sports City-Zarqa main road.

— The short road section between the traffic lights near the Ministry of Supply's refrigerated warehouse and the Ain Al Ghazal interchange.

Nasim Rashmawi, the engineer in charge of streetlighting projects at the JEA, said another seven kilometres of the main Amman-Zarqa road would be lit this week and work on the rest of the road is expected to be completed by the end of this month.

Mr. Rashmawi listed the rest of the projects included in the programme. They include the remaining 15 kilometres of the main Amman-Zarqa highway, 2.5 kilometres between the Sixth and Eighth Circles, parts of Mecca

Street totalling two kilometres, the new five-kilometre road between the Sixth Circle and the University of Jordan Hospital, five kilometres on the Sweileh-Baqaa road and about four kilometres of the Sweileh-Salt road.

According to Mr. Rashmawi, the design and equipment used throughout these projects are of international standards and the 250-watt lamps already in service are of the highly energy-efficient high pressure sodium type, which is rated as one of the best types for streetlighting in terms of energy consumption as well as durability.

Photo-electric cells

Another feature of the project, he said, was that the lighting hours are controlled by photo-electric cells. These photo-electric cells are programmed to activate power supply in proportion to available natural light. In other words, these cells switch on the lights only when daylight is not sufficient and they gradually increase the brightness in proportion to the fading daylight.

In addition, time switches are provided to override these mechanisms whenever necessary.

Operating costs

The annual cost of operating and maintaining streetlights around Amman is about JD 15,000, Mr. Rashmawi said. Power supply to the newly-lit streets is either from the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPCO) or the JEA itself depending on the location and proximity to JEPCO or JEA facilities.

The average life of the installed lamps are 10,000 lit hours, Mr. Rashmawi said.

The lights are fixed at varying intervals depending upon the

Two U.S. legislators arrive for brief visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — A U.S. congressional delegation, led by Senator Rudolph E. Boschwitz and congressman James T. Kolbe arrived in Amman on Tuesday for a short orientation visit to Jordan as part of a tour of several countries in the region, according to a press release issued by the American centre in Amman.

During their brief stay in Jordan, the delegation will meet with senior Jordanian officials to discuss bilateral relations and ways to promote peace in the Middle East, the release continued.

Senator Boschwitz, a Republican from Minnesota, is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Senate Budget Committee. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in November 1978 and reelected in November 1984. Senator Boschwitz was born in Berlin, Germany in 1930. He has served in the U.S. Army signal corps and graduated from New York University with a degree in law in 1953, the release said.

Congressman Kolbe, a Republican from Arizona, is a member of the House Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs Committee. He was first elected to the Congress in November, 1984 and reelected in 1986. Congressman Kolbe was born in Evanston, Illinois in 1942 and graduated from Stanford University with a M.B.A. in Economics in 1967. He served in Vietnam as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, 1967-69.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Council turns down university's request

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Higher Education has decided against establishing a centre for the Arab University of Beirut. The university's headquarters are in Alexandria and it has a major branch in Beirut.

Cabinet okays accord with Turkey

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has endorsed an executive programme for implementing a Jordanian-Turkish cultural cooperation agreement for the coming two years. The programme, signed by representatives of the two sides in Amman on Dec. 9, is designed to promote cultural relations between Jordan and Turkey in education, science, culture, arts, sports and information.

Majali receives mayor of Riyadh

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali on Tuesday received Sheikh Abdullah Al Ali Na'im, the mayor of Riyadh, and Mr. Taleb Al Taher, the director general of the Arab Cities Organisation (ACO), who are taking part in a symposium on administration in Arab cities. During the meeting Mr. Majali reviewed cooperation between Riyadh and Amman in various fields.

Former Australian premier tours campus

AMMAN (Petra) — Former Australian Prime Minister Gough Whitlam on Tuesday called at the University of Jordan and met with its president Abdul Salam Al Majali. Mr. Whitlam was briefed on the university's development and future programmes and was accompanied on a tour of the campus which included visits to the library and other departments. Mr. Whitlam received a token gift to commemorate his visit. Mr. Whitlam took part in the International Commission on Independent Humanitarian Issues (ICHI) which was concluded in Amman on Monday.

CDD director visits Karak centres

KARAK (Petra) — Civil Defence Director Lieutenant General Khaled Tarawneh on Tuesday paid an inspection tour to Karak Governorate, visiting civil defence centres at Karak, Qasr, Al Mazar and Ma'ab. He met with officials and civil defence directors to hear their requests and views about services in the region. Lt-Gen. Tarawneh also inspected building work on a new civil defence centre in Karak, which is being set up on an area of 14 dunums.

Iraqi medical delegation due today

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Iraqi Medical Association, led by Dr. Khalid Darwish Lutfi, will arrive in Amman today on a five-day visit at the invitation of the Jordanian Medical Association (JMA). During the visit, the Iraqi delegation will meet with health minister Zaid Hamzeh and senior officials and will tour a number of health centres and hospitals to look into their services.

Swedish envoy praises Jordan's positive attitude to child care

AMMAN (J.T.) — Swedish-Jordanian cooperation in the field of care for children was hailed during a luncheon arranged Tuesday in the Swedish Embassy in honour of Dr. Stefan Janson, newly appointed head of the Swedish Save the Children Health Centre in Sweileh, according to a press release issued by the Swedish Embassy in Amman.

Mrs. In'am Al Mufti, director general of the Noor Al Hussein Society was representing the Jordanian side. Other guests were secretary general of the Swedish Save the Children, and Mr. A. Vayakoddy, director of the much older Swedish IM-home for handicapped children, also in Sweileh.

Sharing Christmas joy in words and music

By Jean-Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Christmas time presents a wonderful opportunity for choirs to perform. The very structure of a choir is particularly well adapted for singing Christmas carols. In this scope, the Philadelphia Singers will give a concert on Wednesday Dec. 17 at 8:00 p.m., at the theatre of the International Baccalaureate School (IBS).

Conducted by Michael Berridge, who also is the Head of the Music Department at the IBS, the 30-member choir will present 'Christmas in Words and Music', as the announcing poster explains. In fact, there is more than just music to it. The programme includes readings of

poetry as well as songs. Works include known traditional, generally easy to sing along to, more difficult numbers, some of them harmonised by J.S. Bach (A Little One Sweet), and others written by modern composers (Jesus Christ the Apple Tree by Elizabeth Poston).

Intending to make the audience actually participate in the performance, Michael Berridge has had the wonderful idea to indicate on the programme — to be distributed to those attending — the party they can sing and when to do it.

To conform the spirit of the event, which obviously is a common and shared Christmas joy, everybody is invited to meet at the school cafeteria for punch and pies after the performance.

Arab trade, industry federation expected to establish organisation for marketing W. Bank produce

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (FACCIA) is today expected to announce the establishment of a special organisation to market goods from the occupied Arab territories in the federation's member states, according to one participant in the federation's 65th meeting which opened here on Monday.

"There was a consensus to establish an organisation to handle and deal with marketing produce from the occupied Arab territories," the participant told the Jordan Times. The new body aims to support the steadfastness of Arab inhabitants in the Israeli occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, he said.

In his keynote address to the meeting on Monday, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai urged the participants to work towards opening their countries' markets for products from the occupied territories in a bid to thwart Israel's expansionist policy of evicting the indigenous people from their homeland.

On Tuesday, the federation resumed its meetings and discussed prospects of creating new Arab-Canadian and Arab-Spanish chambers of commerce to boost the scope of cooperation between the Arab states on one side and the two countries on the other.

The participants also discussed and assessed reports presented by the federation's secretariat on means to further promote the activities of the Arab-Greek, Arab-Australian, Arab-German,

Arab-Dutch and Arab-Kenyan chambers of commerce.

On Wednesday the participants are due to come out with recommendations on issues relevant to enhancing inter-Arab ties and Arab-international relations and a position on the free trade-zone between Israel and the United States.

The discussions over the past two days reviewed development projects and schemes in member states and inter-Arab economic cooperation. The participants also discussed preparations for an Arab trade exhibition and conference scheduled to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in February 1987.

An intensive, behind closed-doors discussion was later dedicated to assess the U.S.-Israeli free zone, which was put into effect in September 1985. The secretariat prepared a special report on the free-zone and means to curb its effects on the Arab World.

The main reason behind setting up the zone, according to the report, was to save Israel's economy which has been affected by higher military spending, international isolation and Arab

boycott regulations in addition to rising inflation. Increasing Israel's exports to the rest of the world, securing a free entrance by Israel to the two largest markets in the world; Europe and the U.S. — and bolstering trends for a U.S.-Israeli industrial and technological integration were three important reasons that warranted setting the free zone which, the report indicated, were designed solely in the interest of Israel.

During the two-day meetings, the participants held a seminar on the Arab boycott regulations of Israel and topics related to economic measures and acts on international trade disputes.

At the outset of Tuesday's session, the participants discussed topics to be tackled on the agenda of a seminar on the Arab-American economic relations scheduled to be held in Washington next March. Initial steps taken to establish a joint chamber in Washington were also evaluated.

The participants then heard a report presented by the federation's secretary general Burhad Al Dajani on talks and contacts held with international chambers of commerce, industry and agriculture.

In his report, Dr. Dajani, citing an inadequate environment currently prevailing in the U.S., opposed the idea of dispatching an Arab trade delegation to the U.S.

"It would be more convenient to delay the proposed seminar and to convene a mini seminar, attended by a few number of Arab experts, in order to conduct a comprehensive academic and scientific review of all aspects of economic relations between the two sides," he said.

Debate questions landlords and tenants act

By Margarette Hall
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Business and Professional Women's Club held a one day social and legal debate on the landlords and tenants act, on Monday at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation. Lawyer Professor Basil Al Bustani and Dr. Professor Hamza Haddad, an assistant professor at the University of Jordan, were invited to discuss the law.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Haddad said the debate was necessary because of the importance of the landlords and tenants act as it includes an exception to the general rule provided for under the Jordanian Civil Code of 1976. The code states that the contract is the law of the contractors, and hence when the period of the lease ends, the landlord has the right to ask the tenant to leave.

The issues that were questioned included: the rights of the landlord, the need for the act, the

Jordanian Civil Code and depriving foreigners of the protection given to Jordanians. Dr. Haddad said that the aim of conclusion of the discussion was to establish an ad hoc committee which would submit its suggestions regarding the act. If amended or cancelled, its provisions or part of them would be incorporated into the Jordanian Civil Code.

The debate involved arguments, agreements and even rejections of the suggestions. However, the aim, Dr. Haddad said, was to make certain that some provisions of the act were really understood and to put forward ideas and interpretations to Parliament so that it may decide and debate the issue.

As for the suggested reforms, they could be very easily presented to interested Parliament members. If Parliament decides to discuss the case, then the reformed laws would be expected to be enforced within the next year.

Professor Bustani approached several points, notably the matter of rent increases and decreases. He said that the landlord had to follow certain governmental procedures, enforced in 1982, which stated that rents may only be increased by the government under section 14 of the act depending on the case.

In addition, he raised the issue of a divorced woman living in a leased abode. The tenant, being her husband, is considered a foreigner to her and thus, according to the old law, the landlord has the right to force her to vacate. The new law suggests that these women should be protected from such actions and provided for in the case of arbitrary divorce (when the divorce papers are received without prior notice).

The landlords and tenants act affects a large proportion of Jordanian citizens as most people are either owners or tenants and some are both.

Flamenco fling in dance and music

By Jean-Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Organised by the Young Women's Muslim Association (YWMA), the Spanish Ballet of Mercedes Moreno is coming to Jordan for a series of performances at the Royal Cultural Centre's (RCC) main theatre on Tuesday Dec. 16 and Wednesday Dec. 17 at 8:00 p.m., then at Al Hussein Sports City Palace of Culture on Thursday Dec. 18 at 6:30 p.m. All proceeds will go to YWMA charity activities.

Mercedes Moreno ballet includes nine members, dancers and musicians. Most of them have been recruited from the most distinguished sources, such as the Spanish National Ballet. Ms. Moreno has established her own Academy of Spanish dancing in Madrid, and divides her time between the performance of the ballet and the directing of her academy.

Created in 1978, the Spanish Ballet of Mercedes Moreno has already toured all Europe with great success and is now including



Spanish Ballet of Mercedes Moreno

the Middle East in its tour. With its highly dynamic and hot style, flamenco has always been enthusiastically welcomed by

MUSIC PREVIEW

audiences in Mediterranean countries. In fact, the system around which flamenco evolves is close to popular dancing in

Greece, Egypt or Lebanon with a lot of hand clapping, high-pitched singing and passionate dancing. The usual comparison between the guitar and the 'oud' (whichever came first...) appears to be quite justified when one listens to genuine flamenco music.

Mercedes Moreno group promises to stir the audience's interest, whether at the RCC theatre or at the Palace of Culture.

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On oil and development

THE Jordan Development Conference, held recently in Amman, provided a new occasion to reiterate a basic concept to everyone concerned with Arab development — namely, the dependence of economic development in the Arab countries on conditions in the oil market.

The close relationship between oil and development in exporting countries is well known. It has been evident since the beginning of the oil era in the Arab region, and its importance has become more obvious since the early fifties. It was first institutionalised in Iraq, where a specific proportion of oil revenues was allocated for investment in development projects. The other Arab oil exporting countries pursued a similar approach to link petroleum proceeds to their economic development. Consequently, the impact of any increase or reduction in oil revenues is immediately felt in their development expenditure. This has been amply demonstrated in the past few years and especially in 1986.

It should be stressed that development in the non-oil Arab countries, such as Jordan and Yemen, is also closely tied to fluctuations in the oil market. The Jordan Development Conference made it abundantly clear that the fall in oil revenues has been accompanied by a substantial reduction in the flow of funds from Arab sources, thereby leading to recession in economic activity. The national income of Jordan, like that of oil exporters, has been subject to a steep decline in recent years. This is in sharp contrast with the continuous expansion that lasted until the early eighties. The deterioration in oil prices since the beginning of 1986 thus will have a detrimental impact on growth in Jordan and in the other non-oil countries — a phenomenon that closely parallels the experience of the oil exporting countries.

These developments underscore the importance of pursuing a proposal which was suggested by the General Secretariat of OPEC and is gathering widespread support. The proposal stresses the necessity of recycling the petrodollars accruing to the industrial countries from the decline in the prices of oil and other primary commodities. Part of these savings should be utilised for the development of Jordan and other countries whose growth has been impeded by the deterioration of prices. As is known, the 1986 plunges in oil price and in the exchange rate of the dollar mean that savings to industrial countries on oil imports in 1986 will total nearly \$100 billion. More than \$60 billion of this sum represents losses to the Arab oil exporters. The petrodollar, which was the subject of intense discussion in the seventies, has been transformed into savings for the OECD countries, which have benefited also from the decline in the prices of other primary commodities at the expense of the developing countries.

It should be relatively easy for the industrial countries to compensate Jordan and other developing countries for a certain percentage of the reduction in oil prices. This should be facilitated by the friendly relations that exist between Jordan and the OECD countries — OPEC Bulletin editorial.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Rifai calls for economic integration

JORDAN has been keen on honouring its national commitments and playing its national role with honesty and objectivity in the economic and political fields. This was reaffirmed by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai in his address to the 65th meeting of the Federation of Arab Chambers of Trade, Industry and Agriculture. Mr. Rifai underlined the need for creating an integrated economic unit within the Arab World with the intention of enabling all parts to achieve development on the same footing and at the same degree. Integration means no separation of one country from another in the drive for achieving social and economic development. In his address the prime minister also urged the Arabs to extend a helping hand to their brothers in the occupied Arab territories. He said that Israel has been striving to contain the economy of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and trying to evict the Arab population from their land. But this plan has been thwarted by Jordan's measures that ensured the lines of communications with the people of the occupied territory and enhanced their steadfastness in the face of Israel's expansionist designs. Jordan has been doing its part in this endeavour out of a feeling of responsibility and duty towards the Arab brothers under Israeli occupation. Prime Minister Rifai referred to a resolution by the Arab Social and Economic Council that urges Arab states to help the people of the occupied territory, and said that Arab states are now invited to open their markets for the products of the Arab territory and help the Palestinian people resist Israel's measures.

Al Dustour: King urges Arabs to confront dangers

KING Hussein met with Arab delegates taking part in the Federation of the Arab Chambers of Trade, Industry and Agriculture meeting in Amman and urged them to work diligently for their Arab Nation. He said that the Arab countries are now invited to rise to the level of challenges and confront the dangers that threaten Arab people and Arab interests. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai also addressed the delegates, urging Arab countries to forge economic integration amongst them and to form an integrated economic unit. Jordan does not cease calling for solidarity among the Arabs and unity of their ranks because it realises too well the dimension of the dangers posed against the Arab Nation and the need for rallying the Arabs to confront the conspiracies. Jordan has been calling for an Arab summit that can work out an integrated Arab plan for ending Arab ills and differences. Prime Minister Rifai called on the delegates Monday to help extend assistance to their brothers in the occupied Arab land, and referred to Israel's plans to Judaize the Arab territory, contain Arab economy and drive out the indigenous population. This, he said, makes it incumbent upon all Arab countries to open their markets for the products of the occupied Arab land to enable the Arab kinsmen there to resist Israel's measures and to bolster the Arab steadfastness. We welcome the delegates in Amman and hope that their meeting will result in moves that would bolster joint Arab action.

Sawt Al Shaab: Way out for Arabs

KING Hussein addressed the Royal Command and Staff Academy last Saturday warning the Arab Nation against continued indifference and divisions and differences. He urged the Arab leaders to rise above the level of differences and show real solidarity in the face of adversity and in confrontation with the common enemies. The King's address had deep meanings and far reaching objectives and his analysis of the situation and his proposals reflect his keenness on safeguarding the Arab Nation and its future generation. He made it clear that the enemy's challenges and hostile attitudes were motivated by the divisions within Arab ranks and the dissimilarity and differences plaguing their leaders. Had there been real solidarity among the Arabs, the United States would not have favoured Iran and helped it in its attempt to pursue aggression on the Arabs. Had there been total support for Iraq in the war, Washington could not have supplied the Iranian regime with arms, and the camps war in Lebanon would not have continued. It is quite unreasonable for the Arabs to remain in disarray while they see their enemies conceiving their plans and directing their weapons towards them. The Arab Nation would never carry any real weight in the world if it persisted in adopting the same policies and following the same futile course of action.

The Israelisation of American foreign policy

By Michael Saba

The writer is a former executive director of the National Association of Arab-Americans (NAAA). He is the author of *The Armageddon Network* in which he probes into the covert connection between Israel and U.S. administrations' officials.

WASHINGTON — Let's get one thing straight. Irangate has very little to do with illicit aid to the Contras or the Afghan Mujahedeen. These are merely diversions from the main issue. It has everything to do with Israeli arms dealing, gun-running and money-laundering for the benefit of Israelis, the Israeli government and American supporters of Israel. Irangate is Israelgate.

Since the arms-to-Iran-for-American-hostages story broke, we have seen only a trickle of real facts, while we have been bombarded with diversions. I will try to sort the diversions from the facts.

On Nov. 28, I spoke to the American Businessmen's

Association (ABA) in Saudi Arabia. I presented the basic thesis that U.S. foreign policy is heavily "Israelised" and that Israel is a dominant influence on American foreign policy through the pro-Israeli lobby and pro-Israeli American decision-makers. Irangate is a prime example.

I was asked to make some predictions that evening. I based my predictions on the assumption that Israel was not only the major culprit, but was turning Irangate "facts" to its own advantage.

I suggested that there would soon be a story linking the U.S. and Iran in aiding Afghan Mujahedeen with the Israeli arms, by comingling U.S., Iranian and Arab money. On Dec. 3, The

Washington Post broke that very story. The story may or may not be true. Most importantly, however, it diverts attention from the main issues. My prediction assumed that Israel was manipulating the situation.

When I wrote *The Armageddon Network*, I maintained that the American government is under constant pressure from a small group of zealous pro-Israeli Americans. Their major goal is to give blank check to Israel resorting to technology theft and both legal and illegal arms exports as vehicles to add to its military power and treasury.

In my talk with the ABA that night, using this basic concept and the arms-for-hostages story, I continued with other predictions — predictions formulated with Israel's manipulative powers in mind.

I offer some of these predictions. If they prove true, Israel is still manipulating the American government to its own

ends. If these predictions are not realised, we as Americans are regaining control of our affairs. In the American interest, we should hope for the latter.

1. There will be a new Nicaragua crisis which will justify the money to the Contras.

2. Arms control issues with the Soviets will become more confrontational.

3. There will be more resignations/dismissals of Reagan officials. The pressure will be on individuals who haven't been one hundred per cent pro-Israel, most notably Donald Regan.

4. Completely pro-Israeli government officials and influential will fill the voids created by the dismissals. Rising stars will include Richard Perle, Kenneth Adelman, John Lehman, Max Kampelman, Jean Kirkpatrick, Elliot Abrams, Lawrence Eagleburger and Henry Kissinger (who along with George Shultz will become more powerful than an incapacitated president).

5. The media will feature numerous experts on Irangate, whose unannounced credentials will include being pro-Israeli.

6. New stories will surface implicating Arab involvement in creating the Iran crisis.

7. We will move into a Watergate II time-and-event sequence with a weakened president, then a weakened vice president, and ultimately a foreign policy in a shambles.

8. There will be a new wave of anti-Arab, anti-Muslim sentiment.

9. Israeli involvement in U.S. technology theft cases will be forgotten and court cases dropped.

10. There will be more restrictions placed on American arms transfers and subsequently more money to be made by "middlemen."

11. Iranian Jews will leave Iran.

12. Israel's regional policy objectives will be met, i.e., hurt Iraq, help Iran, and most

importantly, continue the Iran-Iraq war.

13. George Bush will support a new congressional oversight committee to be led by one of the most pro-Israeli members of Congress, such as Sen. Daniel Inouye.

14. The three-man committee on NSC (which includes a business associate of Henry Kissinger) will not implicate Israel.

15. The House and Senate Irangate committees will include majorities of pro-Israeli members and pro-Israeli staff and consequently implicate everyone except Israel.

16. The special prosecutor must be acceptable to, pro-Israeli screening.

17. The neo-conservatives who have supported Reagan and the Republicans for six years will shift to the Democratic Party.

Finally, a little lightness. One theory is that President Reagan was actually told all the facts, but he forgot them.

'Camps war' gives Palestinians their first victory since 82

By Mona Ziade
The Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus — The three-week defence of Lebanon's refugee camps by Palestinian fighters has given PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat his first significant victory since 1982.

Fighters from rival factions, including some who had fought against Arafat, joined forces to repulse tank-led assaults by the Syrian-backed Shi'ite Amal militia.

The defence has boosted Soviet-backed efforts to reunite the splintered Palestine Liberation Organisation and revive the fortunes of Arafat, who was driven out of Lebanon by Israel's 1982 invasion.

Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza, galvanised by the PLO renaissance, have taken to the streets in the worst protests against Israeli authorities in four years. At least seven Palestinians, mostly children, have been killed and dozens wounded.

"The PLO has regained up to 70 per cent of its political power," Salah Khalaf, co-founder of Fatah and Arafat's top aide, asserted in a telephone interview from Kuwait.

"The turn of the year will mark the PLO's victory over the regional powers, led by Syria and Israel, which were betting on the disintegration of the movement," Khalaf declared.

The Israelis, seeing the gains they made in their 1982 invasion rapidly eroding, have stepped up their air and naval attacks on PLO bases in south Lebanon in recent months. The attacks underline the scale of Arafat's resurgence.

Arafat has staged his comeback by exploiting the turmoil in war-divided Lebanon and the failure of Syria's efforts to pacify its unruly neighbour.

He has used the bitterness of Christians, his longtime enemies, and Sunni Muslims against Syria to bolster his forces against the Shi'ite Amal militia, which Damascus ordered to crush him.

Last month he even appeared on Lebanese television

network, unthinkable even last year, to denounce Syria. The event underlined how Arafat has engineered a major realignment of forces in Lebanon.

Despite Syrian urging to back the Amal militia, Druse leader Walid Junblatt, a maverick power in Lebanon, has stayed on the sidelines because he sees a strong PLO as a valuable counter to burgeoning Shi'ite strength.

Conservative U.N. estimates say some 3,500 Fatah fighters have infiltrated back to Lebanon in recent months.

Palestinian officials say that up to 7,000 hard-core fighters from Fatah, backbone of the PLO, and seven smaller guerrilla factions, are now in Lebanon.

They are defying the Middle East's two most powerful armies, the Syrians and the Israelis.

Although they are the Middle East's arch enemies, both want to crush Arafat. Syria to wrest control of the Palestinian movement, Israel to curb guerrilla attacks and keep the Palestinians

fragmented.

Amal, Syria's main proxy force in Lebanon, first besieged Beirut's three Palestinian camps in May 1985 in an abortive effort to curb Arafat's resurgence.

Since then Palestinian gun-runners have eluded an Israeli naval blockade and smuggled weapons and men in by sea, mainly through Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

The guerrillas, armed mainly with rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns last year, now have heavy mortars and Soviet-made RDX rockets.

They demonstrated their military strength Nov. 24 by bursting out of Sidon's refugee camps to overrun Amal positions in strategic heights overlooking the city.

They also cut the coastal highway linking Sidon with the predominantly Shi'ite south, severing Amal's main supply route.

The offensive against the Palestinians has accelerated

reconciliation efforts, encouraged by the Soviets and Algerians, and the breakup of the Palestine National Salvation Front — the Damascus-based coalition of six dissident factions groomed by Syria as an alternative to the PLO.

Khalil Wazir, the PLO's deputy commander, has met several times in recent weeks with George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. They met in Prague, Moscow, and Algiers.

Aides said more meetings are needed, but stressed that the foundations for a reconciliation have been laid.

The Popular Front, the main component of the Palestine National Salvation Front, is the second largest Palestinian faction after Arafat's Fatah movement. Together they account for about 70 per cent of Palestinian guerrilla strength.

Popular Front spokesman Bassam Abu Sharif, interviewed by telephone in Libya, said: "The unity displayed on the ground

among fighters from all groups will not be undermined."

The Popular Front and two other members of the Palestine National Salvation Front — the Popular Struggle Front and the Palestine Liberation Front — have refused to attend any PNF meetings while keeping reconciliation channels open to Arafat.

In the eyes of most of the 5-million-strong Palestinian diaspora, Arafat remains *al khatyar*, or "the wise old man."

He also is backed by the majority of 1.4 million Palestinians under Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza.

Khalaf, known by his nom-de-guerre of Abu Iyad, said these Palestinians have been quiescent since 1982 because of the uncertainty surrounding the PLO leadership.

"Now they see the PLO regaining strength and they've come out of their shells to show their feelings," he added.

Jordan and Iraq agree to strengthen ties

(Continued from page 1)

The agreement provides for the Iraqi establishment supplying JPRC with crude oil and oil products and liquid gas during 1987.

The two sides reviewed the progress in implementing an agreement under which Iraqi companies supply the Jordan Phosphates Mines Company (JPMC) with sulphur and both agreed that the agreement would remain valid for 1987 with Iraq providing between 1,500 to 2,000 tonnes of sulphur.

They also decided that Iraq would supply phosphoric fertiliser to the Jordan Valley Farmers Association and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation during 1987 and that the Jordan would supply Iraq with between 20,000 and 25,000 tonnes of potash during the coming year.

The Iraqi side expressed desire to join efforts by the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company to extract phosphates rock and in technical training for employees and workers.

Jordan informed Iraq that it had finalised all procedures for launching maritime cooperation among Iraq, Jordan and Egypt

through a new maritime company. Iraq has agreed on cancelling fees imposed on imported cereals into its territory and an extra fee imposed on Jordanian vehicles at border posts.

It also agreed to make use of Jordanian grain silos at Aqaba. Following the signing ceremony, Mr. Rifai said Mr. Ramadan expressed deep satisfaction with the outcome of the joint committee meetings.

Mr. Rifai said the agreements reflected the exemplary relations between Jordan and Iraq and were aimed at further promoting and expanding scopes of cooperation between the two countries under the guidance of His Majesty the King and President Saddam Hussein. "Jordan is determined to deepen this bilateral cooperation and serve the higher interests of the Arab people in the two countries," Mr. Rifai was quoted as saying by Petra.

Mr. Ramadan expressed satisfaction with the brotherly relations that bind Jordan and Iraq and said his country was also determined to pursue joint efforts that would benefit both countries.

The signing of the minutes followed talks started earlier by teams from the two sides at the

level of ministers and then joined on Monday and Tuesday by Mr. Rifai and Mr. Ramadan.

The two leaders presided over sessions of the meetings in Baghdad Monday evening and reviewed joint ventures and means to increase the volume of bilateral trade. The Jordanian side included Dr. Muasher, Minister of Finance Hanna Odeh, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib, Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan Hussein Al Qassem, under-secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mohammad Saqqaf, economic adviser at the Prime Ministry Fayez Tarawneh, director of the Prime Ministry Haitham Qusous as well as Jordan's ambassador to Iraq.

The Iraqi side included Minister of Transport and Communications Al Assadi, Minister of Finance Hisham Hassan Tawfiq, Minister of Light Industries Tareq Al Abdullah, Governor of the Central Bank of Iraq Hikmat Al Assawi and Iraq's ambassador to Jordan.

After the signing of the minutes, Mr. Rifai visited the monument of the Unknown Soldier in Baghdad and laid a wreath there.

Reagan seeks limited immunity for ex-aides

(Continued from page 1)

is cooperating with congressional investigators, said he would not claim executive privilege to avoid testifying.

So far, some key players have claimed their rights under the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution against self-incrimination and refused to testify before congressional panels.

Secretary of State George P. Shultz was to appear before the closed committee hearing later Tuesday, along with National Security Council official Howard Teicher, Attorney General Edwin Meese and Defence Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger were scheduled to testify Wednesday.

All four cabinet-level officials were appearing at the closed-door hearings voluntarily. All will be required to testify under oath.

Spokesman Speakes confirmed a report that Mr. Teicher submitted his resignation as NSC director of the political-military affairs over the weekend. It is to be effective in March.

Mr. Teicher accompanied former National Security Adviser Robert C. McFarlane and Col. North on their secret trip to Iran last May.

Speakes also confirmed another report that Rodney B. McDaniel,

executive secretary to the NSC, was resigning as well. He said the resignations allow Mr. Reagan's new national security adviser, Frank Carucci, to appoint his own staff.

William Casey, the 73-year-old director of the Central

Intelligence Agency (CIA), had been due to appear before the intelligence committee on Tuesday but was rushed to hospital Monday after suffering what a hospital spokesman called "a minor cerebral seizure." He is reported in stable condition.

Shamir wants talks with Egypt

(Continued from page 1)

Shimon Peres told U.S. Democratic Party leaders that stagnation in peace efforts was liable to cause deterioration in the situation in the Middle East.

He said the next step was deciding on the framework for an international peace conference which would help develop the economy of the Middle East, fight "international terrorism" and advance peace in the region.

When Mr. Peres was prime minister in September, he agreed during a summit with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to set up a committee to prepare for such an international peace parley.

In Cairo, Israeli Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein said Tuesday Egypt and Israel had agreed to improve telephone links and discuss ways to avoid radio and television jamming.

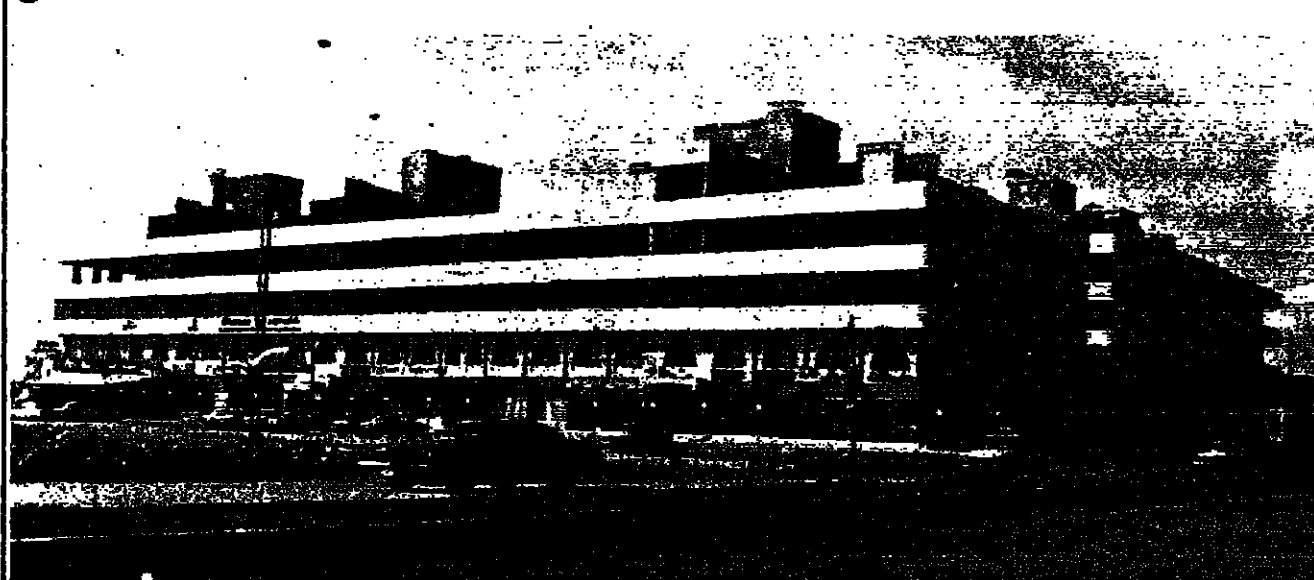
He told reporters after a one-hour meeting with Foreign Minister Ahmad Esmat Abdul Meguid that direct telephone dialing would be set up in a matter of months. Calls between the two countries currently go through an operator.

Egypt and Israel also use similar radio and television transmission frequencies and they agreed to coordinate policies in this area.

"We are in each other's way... we must coordinate because instead of talking to each other, we will unknowingly jam and disturb each other," Mr. Rubinstein said.

The Israeli minister, who arrived in Cairo on Sunday, declined to elaborate on his talks with Mr. Abdul Meguid. He was also received by President Mubarak and Communications Minister Soliman Metwalli Soliman, who he invited to visit Israel.

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Satellites offer new weapon to battle malaria

By Jim Fuller

WASHINGTON — U.S. scientists have begun work on an experimental project that will use Earth-orbiting satellites with electronic sensors to combat the global resurgence of malaria, one of humanity's deadliest diseases.

Researchers at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Ames Research Centre in Mountain View, California, expect the pilot project to lead to a major advance in malaria control by the early 1990s. If effective in the war against malaria, the technique will be applied to many kinds of insect-borne diseases.

Malaria, although infrequent in the industrialised world, occurs in hundreds of millions of people each year in the tropical countries, killing one million people annually in tropical Africa alone.

The goal of the Ames project is to use electronic remote-sensing equipment carried aboard orbiting satellites and high-flying aircraft to monitor environmental conditions, such as rainfall and surface water, that trigger the breeding of malaria-carrying mosquitoes. This will allow malaria control measures, such as water drainage and the use of pesticides, to be focused at times and in areas of highest risk. Scientists hope ultimately to be

able to monitor large equatorial regions weekly and deliver data to developing countries within 24 to 48 hours.

Remote-sensing satellites, such as Landsat, are able to "see" in both the visible and near-infrared wavelengths, and the recorded data are converted into computer images, enabling the study of various environmental features.

"It is our goal to develop a system that any nation can use," said project chief Paul Sebesta. "All they would need is a personal computer and rooftop antenna (small satellite dish) to collect data that would help them in predicting where malaria outbreaks might occur so they can take intervention measures. We feel the programme has a very good chance for success."

Sebesta said the project's first phase, now underway, involves studying mosquito breeding in rice fields in California's Sacramento Valley. The California mosquitoes, although malaria free, are the same kind that transmit malaria in other parts of the world.

After a year of demonstrating that remote sensing data can predict mosquito breeding, researchers will take the project to a malaria area in south west Mexico to test and perfect the technique. Sebesta said preliminary negotiations between

the World Health Organisation and Mexican authorities to begin this phase of the programme in late 1987 have been encouraging. In 1989 investigators hope to go to a second tropical area to learn how to apply the technique in different terrain. When the technique has been successfully demonstrated, probably in the early 1990s, operations will be turned over to an international health organisation or to interested national governments.



Sebesta said scientists expect remote sensing techniques to be effective for malaria control because many of the environmental conditions associated with malaria transmission can be identified from a distance. Key factors such as rainfall patterns, standing water, irrigation, drainage, temperature, soil and topography can all be measured by satellite. The accurate timing of control measures, which satellites can

provide, is needed because the mosquito population is short-lived and fast-breeding.

"It's not just a matter of getting airborne and taking some pictures," Sebesta said. "The potential benefits are enormous, but it will be a very complex undertaking from a scientific standpoint."

Sebesta said the predictive model developed by researchers will have to be precise, and yet versatile enough to transfer, with minor modifications, to regions with varied environmental conditions and mosquito types. Malaria is carried by more than 85 species of mosquitoes with differing habits.

"For example, when we move the project from California to Mexico we have a whole new ecosystem to look at," Sebesta said. "There will be different vegetation, different environmental factors such as the weather, and the irrigation patterns will be different. And that's where the ground teams come in."

Sebesta said that only recent advances in remote sensing have made the malaria programme possible. The past decade has seen the development of high-resolution sensors, powerful computers that handle large amounts of data, and the direct communications link from the

satellite to small "backyard" satellite dishes. Another recent advance is the synthetic aperture radar system that can see through the cloud cover so prevalent in the tropics.

Scientists said the ultimate goal is to use remote-sensing devices aboard the U.S. space station, scheduled for launch in the mid-1990s, since the space station will orbit the Earth's tropical regions.

Malaria, transmitted by mosquitoes that carry the malaria parasite, has resumed its ancient role as one of the world's major killers as traditional control measures have proven ineffective. Some strains of mosquitoes have become resistant to pesticides, while the malaria parasite has become resistant to remedies such as quinine.

Scientists at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research reported earlier this month that the first test in humans of a once-promising prototype malaria vaccine turned out to be a failure despite working in earlier tests on mice and rabbits. But the scientists added that several other forms of potential malaria vaccines are being developed, each employing a different biochemical strategy, and hope is still high that an effective vaccine can be made — U.S. information agency.



The hidden spirit of Iraq Al Amir captured in drawings by Francois Larche and Jean Pierre Lange at the Architecture Gallery.

The art and architecture of an enigmatic qasr with timeless charm

By Josephine Zamaniri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Those amongst us who love Wadi Seer and frequently pass through its cool leafy valley on the way to the mysterious qasr, Iraq Al Amir, will find the current exhibition at the Architecture Gallery (in the Riyadh Centre) of great interest. Held in conjunction with the French Cultural Centre and under the patronage of Dr. Adnan Hadidi, director general of the Department of Antiquities, the 12 architectural renderings by Francois Larche and Jean-Pierre Lange capture the hidden spirit of the small yet subtly magnificent palace.

Situated on a tiny, slightly elevated plain and surrounded by rocky cliffs, the qasr retains a solitary air, a crumpled fragment of the past thrown into a glorious green, timeless world of the Arab peasant.

For several years now, a French archaeological expedition has carried out restoration works on the palace, which was little more than half standing walls surrounded by a checker board of fallen stones; some were small,

others massive sometimes — four or five feet in breadth and three in height. These gigantic slabs, however, are narrow in width and structurally unsound. The carvings of the qasr, so harmoniously depicted in the exhibition, have a primitive charm; rough hewn lions and smooth if not childish loops from whose mouths, in grandeur days, gushed fresh cool water.

The origin of the qasr has for many years been supposition, as the palace itself has no inscriptions. However, the name Tobiad is carved into the rock face of some nearby caves, suggesting the place to be of the family of tax collectors mentioned by Josephus.

The work of Larche and Lange, within its architectural form, remains a diligent portrayal of the qasr and its hidden serenity. The renderings, with their stark black hatching and soft moulded lines, stand in themselves as a monument to the unknown builders of the past.

For those who admire Iraq Al Amir and Wadi Seer, fine architectural renderings or simply archaeology, this exhibition is a must.

Hot topic: Chilies cause pleasant pain, mild euphoria

Zubin Mehta carries peppers to give to Gregory Peck; cooling off in the tropics

By Anil Kumar Nij
The Wall Street Journal

WESLACO, Texas — Here in a huge greenhouse near the Mexican border, plant pathologist Benigno Villalon domesticates rows and rows of knee-high pepper plants. His expertise and his Ph.D. cause him to call him Dr. Pepper. Today, he and an assistant are sampling the hottest of peppers, a variety called habanero.

It is a light-green, lantern-shaped aromatic fruit found in the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico and used in sauces by cooks there. Mr. Villalon carefully fillets the pepper and inspects it. After chewing a piece slowly, he pauses and says, "I would say it's 20,000." His research associate, William Warfield, also chews a piece and nods. (A blistering *chile jalapeno* is rated no more than 4,500 "Scoville units," a subjective scale of pepper heat invented in 1912.) They each chew another slice: "20,000, certainly no more than 30,000," Mr. Villalon figures. "It should mature to between 200,000 and 300,000."

Coughing and sniffing

By now, the stillness of the 32-degree Celsius glasshouse is broken by coughing and sniffing, as if both men had been struck by the flu. Mr. Warfield starts to pace. "It shoots off all at once and numbs the eardrums," Mr. Warfield explains later. And so ends the only test Mr. Villalon intends to run on this pepper's pungency.

Nor does Mr. Villalon have any plans to grow seeds from the habanero plant in the two-acre trial grounds here at Texas A&M University's experiment station, where peppers somewhat less *nicante* are tested before they are released to growers. "Habanero is for curiosity," says the botanist. "They're just too hot." But, then, he adds, "Who would talk about peppers if it weren't for their heat?"

Who indeed? Those who like hot chilies like them for the same reason others keep their distance: When you bite one, it bites back. Eating hot peppers is a form of benign masochism.

In New Mexico, a leading producer state, 150,000 tons of chilies were harvested last year, compared with 47,000 tons 10 years earlier. Consumption is up substantially in the U.S., largely because American palates are turning to spicier and more exotic foods, and in Europe, mainly from the increasing popularity of Indian and Chinese foods. A few aficionados, including the New York Philharmonic's director Zubin Mehta, now carry around fresh chilies to add to their food wherever they go. They might be on to something, too, since various health claims are made for eating

peppers, the most intriguing being that they might prolong life. They may also have a drug effect more common to illicit substances. They seem to produce a natural high when the body releases its own painkillers in response to the "heat."

A fruit of the genus *Capsicum*, chili gets its temperament from an alkaloid (capsaicin) that lines the inner walls. Bell, pimiento and other sweet varieties were created by selective breeding in Europe. But hot chilies have been commonly associated with the fiery foods of India, China and Mexico.

Peppers are indigenous to Mexico and the tropical forests of Central and South America. Spanish and Portuguese explorers discovered peppers in use in the New World in the 15th and early 16th centuries. Peppers quickly found their way around the world, following the Spanish-Portuguese trade routes. "The pepper was so enthusiastically received in India and the Far East that people have forgotten where the fruit originated," says Jean Andrews, who has written an illustrated book called "Peppers: The Domesticated Capsicums."

'Can't do without it'

"People who used to run away from the hot pepper now can't do without it," says Mr. Mehta. He always carries "long, thin, and very, very hot" chili in a small cardboard box in his vest pocket, and in "a little gold box" for formal occasions.

"I am always having to share my peppers with Gregory Peck," the maestro says. "I have passed on the habit to Mrs. Sinatra, who used

to use Tabasco sauce," which, of course, is made from peppers. At a recent dinner at Mr. Mehta's Los Angeles home, King Juan Carlos of Spain apparently was quite taken with the peppers (jalapeno, Hungarian cherry and tabasco) that Mr. Mehta grows in his garden. "He took a handful with him and said he would grow them himself, from my seeds," Mr. Mehta recounts.

Wayne Avis, a real-estate developer in Farmington Hills, Mich., carries his "day's supply" of fresh peppers in an antique matchbox. "I like to bite on them, I don't like flakes," he says. He gets his supply from Sidney McNiece, the president of Avis Enterprises, who grows them in nearby Ann Arbor.

Pepper maven

To hear Mr. McNiece describe his favorites is like listening to a sommelier rhapsodizing about wine. Some just sneak up on you, he says, while some smack you right in the face, and others spread slowly in your mouth. Thus, different foods call for different peppers. Still, he says, "You can put chilies on all kinds of food other than ice cream."

If you like a burning sensation, that is, capsaicin excites pain receptors on the tongue and in the mouth. The brain, in order to remove the irritant, responds by making the mouth salivate, the nose run and the gastrointestinal tract work hard. The body sweats to cool itself. According to one theory, chili eaters like this "air conditioning" effect — which is akin to the "pleasure" of taking a cold shower after a sweaty physical workout. Perhaps it also

helps to explain the popularity of peppers in countries with hot climates.

Paul Rozin, a professor of psychology at the University of Pennsylvania, has an explanation for the chili addiction that some have observed. When the body encounters pain, the brain secretes endorphin, which has a pain-relieving effect similar to morphine. As hot-pepper eaters keep on deliberately inflicting the irritation, the brain secretes more and more endorphin. "Excessive endorphin causes pleasure," Mr. Rozin says.

Another addiction theory notes that capsaicin, as an alkaloid, is related chemically to caffeine, morphine, quinine, strychnine and nicotine.

Chili lovers can also take comfort in the fruit's nutrition and health benefits. It is rich in vitamin C and vitamin A. In fact, peppers helped Hungarian scientist Albert Szent-Gyorgyi isolate vitamin C, which won him a Nobel Prize in 1937. Inspired by centuries of practice in Asia and Mexico, Irwin Ziment, a professor of medicine at the University of California's Los Angeles School of Medicine, routinely prescribes peppers to patients suffering from cold, cough and other respiratory ailments. "Chili loosens up mucus in throats and lungs," he says. "A lot of the over-the-counter drugs don't have any more proven clinical abilities" than chilies do. It would seem that the only people who should avoid hot peppers besides people who hate chilies are those with allergies or hemorrhoids.

Bureau of pods

The pepper industry-growers, the hot-sauce makers and canners — would like to capitalize on all the enthusiasm. Jalapeno-eating contests, now a tradition in the Western U.S., are only a sideshow. Las Cruces, N.M., is the world headquarters for the International Connoisseurs of Green and Red Chili. It has 10 U.S. chapters, called "pods" — Latter Day Pods in Logan, Utah, for example, and Bureau of Pods in Washington, D.C. — and members from almost all of the countries in Europe. Rather more serious is the National Pepper Conference, founded in 1972, where botanists and other scientists discuss peppers on a scientific plane.

Of the 20 distinct pepper species — each containing many varieties — that taxonomists have identified, just five of them — *annuum*, *frutescens*, *baccatum*, *chinense*, and *pubescens* — have been domesticated. (Which is to say, crossbred to produce types congenial to local climates and resistant to plant diseases.) Except for tabasco, all peppers currently available in the U.S. are varieties of the *annuum* species. "There's a lot of work to be done" on



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Chicago defeats Detroit with last-second field goal

PONTIAC, Michigan (AP) — Kevin Butler kicked a 22-yard field goal on the final play of the game Monday night to lift the Chicago Bears to a 16-13 National Football League victory over the Detroit Lions.

Butler's field goal capped a 13-point fourth-quarter surge by the Bears and spoiled the first NFL start by Lions quarterback, Chuck Long.

The Bears, who kept alive their chance at having the homefield advantage throughout the playoffs, improved to 13-2 while Detroit dropped to 5-10.

Butler, who kicked a 41-yard field goal in the second quarter, kicked a 32-yarder with 12:26 remaining in the game to pull the Bears within 13-6.

On their next possession, quarterback Doug Flutie drove the Bears 74 yards in eight plays, hitting Emery Moorehead for 25 yards along the way. Matt Suhey dove over from the 4 with 5:49

remaining to tie the game at 13-13.

On their next possession, the Bears drove from their own 45 to the Detroit 5, setting up Butler's winning field goal.

The Lions' only touchdown followed a Bear turnover in the third quarter.

Detroit's Donnie Elder raced downfield to down Jim Arnold's punt at the Chicago 1. On the first play from scrimmage, Walter Payton fumbled and Demetrius Johnson recovered for Detroit at the 4.

On the first play, Long, the Lions' first-round draft choice from Iowa, hit Leonard Thompson over Vestee Jackson in the left corner of the end zone for

a 13-3 Detroit lead with 6:56 left in the third quarter.

Eddie Murray sandwiched field goals of 52 and 39 yards around a 41-yarder by Butler to give the Lions a 6-3 halftime edge.

Flutie completed 13 of 24 passes for 130 yards while Long was 12 of 24 for 167 yards. Each threw one interception.

The Bears' defence, no. 1 in the NFL, came to life in the second half, registering three of their five sacks and intercepting Long.

On the Bears' sixth snap, a third-and-4 at their own 40, starting quarterback Mike Tomczak was hit by Curtis Green and James Griffin while throwing an incomplete pass and limped off the field.

Tomczak was taken to the dressing room and it was announced that he suffered a bruised right leg. He did not return to the game and appeared on the sidelines in the second half on crutches.

Fear of violence prompts English match to move

TELFORD, England (AP) — English soccer officials, fearful of trouble at a small nonleague stadium, ordered a tournament game moved Tuesday to the site of violence earlier this season involving fans of one of the teams.

The Football Association said the third-round F.A. Cup match between Second Division Leeds and nonleague Telford would be staged at West Bromwich Albion on Jan. 11.

West Brom, which plays a tournament game at Swansea City the day before, was reluctant to allow its field to be used after police said Telford was unsuitable. But the F.A. said "no other suitable venue in the area" was available.

"We have an inherent power, if you like, to decide where matches will be played at the last ditch," Ted Croker, the association's secretary, said. "We have total power to make decisions in relation to clubs who are affiliated."

"It was simply the best of several difficult alternatives. It was a difficult decision, almost impossible."

Leeds fans will be allowed to buy tickets for the match, The F.A. said. The West Bromwich Stadium holds about 39,000 people.

In a season in which authorities say they are making headway in cracking down on soccer fan violence in England, road games involving Leeds have been exceptions.

Earlier this month, police blamed Leeds fans for setting fire to a shack housing floodlight transformers at the West Bromwich field following a league match. No injuries were reported and the fire was extinguished after doing minor damage.

At the beginning of the season, Leeds fans were at the centre of a disturbance at Bradford City, where a food van was set afire.

Again, damage was minor. Birmingham City, also nearby, had been suggested as a site for the F.A. Cup game. But Leeds fans were involved in a riot there in 1985 that killed one person.

Telford, one of two nonleague teams left in the nationwide competition, was drawn last week to host Leeds.

India bans athletes from int'l events

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has banned Indian athletes from participating in all international sports except cricket because of the country's poor performance in the Seoul Asian Games, an official said Tuesday.

Vidya Shukla, president of the Indian Olympic Association, said Gandhi's order has been sent to the Ministry of Sports.

"The Sports Ministry is reviewing the entire policy and for the time being no team is going out," Shukla said.

Shukla told the Associated Press by telephone that the order would remain in force until Gandhi completes a review of India's performance in Seoul.

Shukla said the order might be the reason the government recently refused to let a wrestling team visit Pakistan and banned a table tennis team from participating in an international tournament.

There was widespread criticism in the national parliament and press over India's performance at the Asian Games in September.

India sent more than 400 people to the games — the country's biggest contingent ever sent abroad — but won only five gold medals.

China ranked first in the games with more than 80 gold medals. India ranked fifth.

The ban does not cover cricket. India is the reigning world champion in the sport.

Australia, England draw cricket test

ADELAIDE, Australia (R) — Australia's bowlers briefly raised the prospect of an England batting collapse before the third cricket test, played on a pitch that throughout favoured the batsmen, ended in a draw Tuesday.

The result meant England retained its 1-0 lead in the five-match series which resumes with the fourth test starting in Melbourne on Dec. 26.

Rival captains Allan Border, who earlier had completed his seventh century against England, and Mike Gatting agreed to a half-hour break before the scheduled close with England, 39 for two in its second innings.

After Australia declared at 201 for three at tea, England needed 261 to win the final session. But it was Australia who momentarily courted victory when in quick time it disposed of Bill Athey and Gatting.

Athey was caught at the wicket off Merv Hughes with the score 21 and Gatting, having treated Greg Matthews with disdain in the first innings, was bowled first ball.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Kasparov beaten in Brussels

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Soviet world chess champion Garry Kasparov Monday suffered his second defeat since he won the title, bowing to Nigel Short of Great Britain in 45 moves in the fourth round of the Brussels tournament. Kasparov appeared to be under constant pressure in the lively game. Short, who is two years younger than the 23-year-old world champion, is ranked ninth in the world. John Nunn of Britain and Soviet-born Swiss Victor Korchnoi played to a draw after 20 moves, as did Lajos Portisch of Hungary and German Robert Huebner in 38 moves.

Weightlifting defector tours Turkey

ISTANBUL (R) — World champion weightlifter Naim Suleymanoglu, who defected from Bulgaria to Turkey last week, received a warm welcome in Istanbul Tuesday as he continued a 10-day tour of his new country. He was greeted by Mayor Bedrettin Dalan as he landed by helicopter in the city's main Taksim Square and carried shoulder-high by a cheering crowd after he laid a wreath at a monument to Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, founder of modern Turkey. Suleymanoglu will sightsee in Istanbul until Thursday then visit other western Turkish cities, starting in Bursa where some of his relatives live, municipal officials said.

Italy's World Cup team acquitted

MILAN, Italy (R) — A Milan court formally acquitted Italy's victorious 1982 World Cup soccer squad of illegally transferring money into Italy, court sources said Monday. The 22-man team had been accused of flouting Italy's currency laws by failing to convert into lire payments of \$14,000 each made by a French clothing sponsor during the World Cup finals in Spain. Recent retroactive changes in the law have raised the amounts of money Italians can bring into the country and a full trial due Monday was cancelled. But the squad is still under investigation for alleged tax evasion regarding the sponsor's payments.

Iraq reappoints national coach

BAGHDAD (R) — The Iraqi Football Association (IFA) has re-appointed former national soccer team coach Ammu Baba who it sacked two years ago, the official news agency INA reported. The agency said Monday the IFA decision was taken in the light of preparation for the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games. Baba led the Iraqi side to several important wins including the Asian Soccer Championship in 1982, but was held responsible for the disastrous performance of the team at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles.

Suspended player wins Bulgarian award

VIENNA (R) — National goalkeeper Borislav Mikhailov was named Bulgarian footballer of the year barely 18 months after being banned for life, the official BTA news agency reported. Mikhailov, 24, was one of four players suspended for life last season after a brawl during the Bulgarian Cup final between Spartak Levski and Cika Sofia. Five other players received one-year bans. But Mikhailov's punishment was overturned at the beginning of this year soon after Bulgaria qualified for the World Cup finals.

Ghent sacks Dutch coach

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgian First Division soccer club Ghent has sacked Dutch coach Han Grijzenhout, a team spokesman said Tuesday. Ghent, 14th in the Belgian League and a distant 15 points behind leader Anderlecht, was knocked out of the European Football Union (UEFA) Cup by Gothenburg last week.

Alliot to drive for Lola LC

PARIS (R) — Frenchman Philippe Alliot will drive the new Lola LC Formula One car in next year's Grand Prix season, a team spokesman said Tuesday. Alliot, 32, who replaced the injured Jacques Laffite at Ligier after a crash at last July's British Grand Prix, signed Monday for the Lola LC team, set up by Gerard Larrousse and Didier Calmels, press spokesman Emmanuel Lupe said. Alliot drove for the Ram team in 1984 and 1985. Lupe said the new team would make their Formula One debut at the San Marino Grand Prix at Imola on May 3.

Sri Lanka, India to meet in cricket

KANPUR, India (R) — India and Sri Lanka meet in the first test in this northern city Wednesday on a grassy pitch which at least raises the prospect of an exciting start to the three-match series. Indian captain Kapil Dev said: "We have a good, sporting wicket after a long time," referring to the drawn series with Australia in India earlier this year. The two sides will announce their teams Wednesday, with India expected to give all-rounder Bharat Arun his test debut. Arun took three wickets and hit an unbeaten century for the Indian under-25 team in the recent drawn match with Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka manager Abu Fuzaid said the touring team's only casualty was Roshan Juranpathy. He has a minor facial injury.

Ballesteros named golfer of year

LONDON (AP) — Seve Ballesteros of Spain was named European golfer of the year in the Ritz Club poll Tuesday. Ballesteros, who won six European PGA tournaments and a record £240,000 (\$343,200) this season, nipped Spanish rookie Jose-Maria Olazabal in balloting by former European golf championships and golf writers.

Runner's penalty highlights problems

NEW YORK (R) — The plight of Polish distance runner Antoni Niemczak, who has stumbled into the athletics spotlight for all the wrong reasons, has highlighted the many problems of the sport's battle against drug abuse.

Niemczak finished second in the New York Marathon on Nov. 2 but was disqualified after being found to have traces of a banned substance — the steroid nandrolin — in his body.

After considering a report from the U.S. ruling body, the Athletics Congress, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) banned Niemczak on Dec. 1 for at least 18 months.

In an age when athletics provides a good income for many, 31-year-old Niemczak calls his situation "a living nightmare."

Not only will he not get the \$25,000 he won in New York but he will probably be forced to make his living as a sports instructor at his local club in Wroclaw.

An IAAF technical official in London said the Polish Athletics Federation had accepted the decision, which means Niemczak will miss next year's World Championships in Rome.

Although there is growing support among IAAF member

federations for stiffer sentences on athletes caught using illegal drugs, the case of Niemczak illustrates the delicate problems facing the authorities.

Niemczak is adamant he has never taken drugs and claims he was injected with nandrolin unwittingly after undergoing dental treatment a month before the marathon.

The stigma of being an alleged drug taker is already causing problems for Niemczak. Recently he was denied entry to the Honolulu Marathon and said last week: "This situation has killed me. My situation now is tragic. Running is my life."

And the father of two daughters, aged three and one, added: "I have never taken drugs, no steroids, never. I would like to see drug testing for every race, every 10 kilometre and every marathon included."

New York Marathon director Fred Lebow has issued a plea to the IAAF for common sense on the issue. "No one disputes the findings of the tests. There is no question about that," he said.

"The question is was there enough of the substance to enhance his performance. Will one shot help an athlete so

much?"

Lebow has released a telex he received from the Polish Athletic Federation on Dec. 2 which states that Niemczak visited a dentist on Oct. 8 in order to have tooth roots extracted.

"The wound was sutured and the patient was given medicaments to relieve pain — madoxin, nandrolin, one ampoule — and to speed up cicatrization of the wound," the telex said.

John Matusewicz, a U.S.-based Pole who helped Niemczak prepare for the race, said he had told the athlete that the first three in the race would be dope tested.

Wicketkeeper breaks nose

ADELAIDE, Australia (R) — Australian Wicketkeeper Greg Dyer, making his debut at stand-in for the injured Tim Zoehrer, had his nose broken in the dying stages of the third test against England Tuesday.

Dyer was struck by a rising ball from leg-spinner Peter Sleep. He received treatment on the field before continuing.

Bruce Reid, Australia's left-arm medium-fast bowler, finished with a blistered left foot.

Challenger yachts down to 4

FREMANTLE, Australia (R) — As the New York Yacht Club prepares for its unexpectedly sudden departure from Fremantle, the surviving America's Cup crews can look forward to a much-needed break before the contests resume after Christmas.

The challengers' series has reached the semifinal stage, leaving New York's America II and skipper John Kohn among the vanquished.

Having suffered the indignity of relinquishing the trophy for the first time to the Australians three years ago, the New Yorkers are now resigned to sitting out the final for the first time since the America's Cup began in 1851.

Ironically, the man who surrendered the cup in 1983, Dennis Conner, skippered the San Diego Yacht Club's entry safely through the opening phases of the challenger series and his Stars and Stripes will line up against the other American qualifier, USA, in the semifinals.

The other semifinal will pit the all-conquering New Zealand against Frank Kins.

The New Zealand challenge was the least predictable but there is now a widespread belief that its

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4330/40	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3795/3800	Canadian dollars
	2.0230/40	West German marks
	2.2860/70	Dutch guilders
	1.7070/80	Swiss francs
	42.03/08	Belgian francs
	6.6250/6300	French francs
	1401/1402	Italian lire
	163.83/93	Japanese yen
	6.9720/70	Swedish crowns
	7.6000/50	Norwegian crowns
	7.6420/70	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	393.80/394.30	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares were mixed in late trading after a quiet session mainly due to seasonal considerations, dealers said. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 index was 0.8 up at 1,637.8.

Equities showed no reaction to news the U.K. November public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) was just £56 million compared with market estimates of as much as £1 billion but gilts tended firmer on the much better than expected figure. News that U.K. October industrial production fell 0.8 per cent had no impact.

Glaxo rose 34p to 1,010 on further consideration of last week's annual meeting while ICI fell 5p to 1,083 after agreeing to merge its oil and gas interests with Enterprise Oil.

The merger of ICI's oil and gas interests will give ICI a 25 per cent stake in Enterprise's enlarged equity. ICI's interests will be exchanged for 71.91 million new Enterprise ordinary shares. Enterprise Oil was 11p up at 174.

In an otherwise dull oil sector I.C. Gas rose 6p to 569 after interim profits of £18.48 million against £17.33 million for the comparable half year. A £750 million offer for I.C. Gas recently lapsed after being referred to the Monopolies Commission.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: An unusually good day and evening for you to work out whatever has to do with your home, family or property. It's a good time for choosing gifts for your own clan.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Ask him what it is they want improved at home and then make the small repairs desired. Be happy.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A field day for shopping for Christmas presents, especially for your closest ties. Get others in the Christmas spirit.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You find a better way of taking care of your property and also have new ideas to improve your monetary status.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You are highly magnetic today and can easily attain whatever you want the most.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get into the privacy of your study and plan a new course of action that can bring to you whatever you desire.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get out of that rut you may be in and be a more gregarious and happy person. See long-time friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A fine day for taking care of credit and community affairs efficiently. There's also time for recreation you like.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You get many fine ideas, so jot them down for future use. They can be of great help to you later.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Show more affection for your mate and reap the rewards. Complete old responsibilities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be more idealistic with associates and less practical with your mate. Gain more loyalty from them thusly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study your activities well and further your most promising ones by applying renewed efforts. Talk with co-workers.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get into the pleasures that most appeal to you and plan to enjoy them during the festive period.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she may have a rather easy life and should be taught that one has to be occupied at something creative to get the most out of life, especially since there is much ability here and the talents are many and varied. Your child is a highly sensitive individual.

THE Daily Crossword by CF Murray

ACROSS

- 1 Genesis name
- 5 Deflect
- 9 Clothe
- 13 Lachrymose
- 14 — Lisa
- 15 — about
- 16 Writer Jung
- 17 Algerian port
- 18 Guts or
- 19 Tushingham
- 20 Fleet
- 21 Rusty dab
- 22 Property
- 23 Scotch
- 24 Cut off
- 25 Steams
- 26 Scotch
- 27 American
- 28 Beauty, e.g.
- 29 Singer Adams
- 30 Make quick
- 31 Accident
- 32 Or, city
- 33 Advantage
- 34 Utah mountains
- 35 Malt down
- 36 Conflict
- 37 Most tender
- 38 Silver outline
- 39 Eagle's nest
- 40 Soft cheese
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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1 Hat
2 Scurvy hero
3 Small monkey
4 Old Fr. colon
5 Ditto
6 Reference
7 Talks wildly
8 Unge
9 Persian fairy
10 Arab ruler
11 — precedent
12 Antiquing
13 material
14 Upset
15 Kite
16 Anthropologist
17 Margaret
18 Assen
19 Old postcard
20 Fright-seeing
21 bird
22 Impresario
23 Sol
24 Clinging coats
25 Rite
26 Scorch
27 A crowd?
28 Marbles
29 Warm up
30 Exhaust
31 Basting
32 Idiography

Electricity shortage forces Iran to order large number of generators

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Iran has placed urgent orders for 3,500 gasoline and diesel generators, underlining electricity shortages after Iraqi air raids on power plants in Tehran and in north and west Iran, trade sources reported Monday.

Merchants in Dubai have supplied Iran with such sets before. But trade sources expressed surprise at the number requested this time, saying they only had about 2,000 in stock. They said they planned to deliver what they have this week.

They said there had been no orders for such sets, which are made in Japan, for one year.

"Suddenly orders began flowing. The numbers have been increasing by the day in the past week, and this must have been the result of unexpected power shortages in Iran," said one of the merchants who was asked for the sets. He and the other trade sources requested anonymity.

The sets have a limited production of 10 kilowattampere, or KVA. They are used to light houses and shops in the absence of main electrical supplies.

Iraq, at war with Iran, has sent its warplanes on a series of

bombing runs against power plants in Dehloran, western Iran, Nekta, in the north, and Tehran.

The Iraqis reported that Tehran's main electricity plant was demolished in a raid Saturday. Iran's Energy Minister Mohammad Banki told Tehran's daily Kayhan newspaper recently that because of the war and the shortages in spare parts "the country's generating capacity has dropped from 7,400 megawatts in the summer to 5,000 megawatts."

He said this prompted the government to introduce electric power cuts of five hours a day.

Iran seeks to boost trade with East Africa

Meanwhile, Iran's commerce minister Hassan Abedi Jaafari, said Monday his country seeks to boost trade with East Africa and will soon start a new shipping line to serve with Tanzania, Zimbabwe and possibly Mozambique, Iran's official news agency said.

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) monitored in Nikosia, said Jaafari returned home Sunday from a two-week trip to the three nations.

In an interview with IRNA Monday, he said the shipping line

will link Iran with Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

But he did not say when the sea link will start.

He was quoted as saying Iran will look into supplying Mozambique with its oil needs. But he added the shipping line will not include Mozambique because of "insecurity of major ports of the country which are constantly threatened by the racist apartheid regime of South Africa."

He said the Tanzanian government expressed willingness to export wood, tea, paper, sesame seeds and cocoa to Iran. Iran agreed to export "primary materials and goods such as motorcycles and blankets" to Tanzania.

He said a commercial agreement was signed with the Harare government under which Zimbabwe will supply Iran with steel and corn. He did not say what Iran's exports to Zimbabwe would be.

Iran has been trying to diversify its economy which depends almost entirely on oil revenues. Lower oil prices and repeated Iraqi attacks on Iranian oil centres in the six-year-old Gulf war has shattered Iran's economy.

India counts on financial institutions to maintain boom in stock exchanges

NEW DELHI (R) — Finance Minister V.P. Singh said Monday state financial institutions will be used to maintain buoyancy in Indian stock exchanges which he said would register a record turnover this year despite a recent financial crisis.

Mr. Singh addressed a meeting of presidents of India's 14 stock exchanges to discuss heavy panic sales of some high-priced stocks in the past two months that has shaken the confidence of 12 million investors across the country.

Last week, the financial agencies bought thousands of depressed car, textile and cement shares and succeeded in halting the panic sales.

The agencies included the Unit Trust of India, a state investment

scheme, and the Life Insurance Corporation of India. Another institution that could become involved is the Industrial Development Bank of India.

The institutions would monitor the overall behaviour of stock markets and whenever there was a sharp fluctuation in prices, they would step in to stabilise the market, he said. "We will ensure the stock exchange curve keeps ascending."

Mr. Singh said the government was confident the stock exchanges would register a record turnover of 50 billion rupees (\$4 billion) in fiscal 1986/87 ending March against 52 billion last year.

New capital issues worth more than 40 billion rupees had already been sold in the current year and government bonds had been

oversubscribed by more than 125 per cent to 200 per cent, he said.

The buoyancy of stock markets reflected the inherent strength of the Indian economy, marked by a moderate inflation rate and abundant food stocks, he said.

"People from all over the world are knocking at our doors for investment," he said.

But there was need to reform the stock market, he said, adding the government was concerned over insider trading based on confidential company information.

There currently is no law in India to prevent such trading which was partly responsible for the recent bearish sales of shares.

"We have to do something about it," he said. "As the market grows, we cannot afford a crash."

Major U.S. banks agree to merge

NEW YORK (R) — Texas Commerce Bancshares is to merge with Chemical New York Corp., creating the fifth-largest U.S. banking company with assets of \$75 billion, the two companies said Monday.

Investment adviser Morgan Stanley and Company valued the deal at \$1.19 billion, one of the largest interstate banking deals ever. The merger is the first since the change of state laws earlier this year allowing out-of-state banks to acquire Texas banks. Texas Commerce is Texas' fourth-largest bank and operates 70 banks in the state.

Under Texas law each bank office operates as a separate entity. Texas banks have been hard hit by the slump in oil prices.

New chief for Holiday Inn

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Bent Poulsen has been appointed new general manager of Holiday Inn in Amman.

Recently arrived from Jakarta, Indonesia, Mr. Poulsen has more than 30 years of experience in the hotel industry, having worked for many years in top positions at international hotel chains worldwide.

The new general manager, who is of Danish nationality, is a graduate of the Ecole Hotelier Lausanne and also holds other university degrees.

Also joining Holiday Inn, Amman is Mr. Wilfried Pfeiffer who will be in charge as executive chef to improve and upgrade food facilities to international standards.

Mr. Pfeiffer, who is of German nationality and whose family resides in Surrey, England, has over twenty-five years experience in international hotel chains.



Wilfried Pfeiffer

Kuwait takes bold steps to prop up ailing economy

KUWAIT (AP) — The Kuwaiti government decided Monday to spend \$1.7 billion to buy real estate from the private sector as part of a package of economic measures to prop up an ailing national economy.

The oil-rich gulf state has been suffering from the sharp drop in oil prices, accompanied by the spillovers of the four-year-old stock market crash and the protracted war between its northern neighbours, Iraq and Iran.

A decree, signed by Emir Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and published in the Official Gazette, authorised government appropriation of private real estates within a total value of 500 million dinars or \$1.7 billion.

The decision was considered by financial analysts here as aimed at reactivating the country's trade cycle through what is known as money with a multiplier effect.

The decree coincided with a cabinet decision Sunday to amend a commercial companies code in line with the government's approach to facilitate dealings at the stock market and restructure the national economy.

Minister of state for cabinet affairs, Sheikh Rashid Abdul Aziz Al Rashid, said that the

amendments provided for the "fragmentation" of the value of the shares of Kuwaiti shareholding companies to boost dealings at the stock market.

"This will broaden the shareholding base of the companies and allow small investors the opportunity to invest savings in shares," he told reporters.

One article was amended to reduce the minimum face value of Kuwaiti shares from one Kuwaiti dinar (\$3.5) to 100 fils (35 cents). The dinar equals 1,000 fils.

"The revision also provided for the regulation of ownership of shares, facilitating their sale and getting rid of formal restrictions, with a view to speeding up dealings inside and outside the stock exchange hall and enabling dealers to meet their obligations," Sheikh Al Rashid said.

In a separate statement, Commerce and Industry Minister Faisal Al Khaled said that among the measures being studied by the government was one allowing

expatriates to trade shares on the stock market. This was designed to "benefit from their savings in boosting the national economy."

Expatriates make up about 60 per cent of Kuwait's population. In a parallel move, the central bank was sponsoring a government blueprint for the repayment of bad bank debts over the coming decade or so.

Kuwait Central Bank Governor Saleem Al Sabah has issued a warning to debtors to join the programme before the end of the month, otherwise the creditor banks would be entitled to sue them.

Earlier reports indicated that indebtedness to Kuwaiti banks amounted to about four billion dinars (\$14 billion), at least half of them bad loans.

The indebtedness problem arose out of substantial decline in the value of collaterals, mainly securities and real estate, kept at the banks against loans obtained by key dealers of Al Manakh market crash of August 1982.

Al Manakh, the parallel or unofficial stock market, crumbled under the weight of \$94 billion worth of unpaid post-dated checks that year.

Japan Line seeks urgent financial help

TOKYO (R) — Japan Line, one of the world's major tanker operators, Tuesday became the latest giant Japanese shipping company to fall victim to the sharp rise of the yen and the prolonged world shipping recession.

Japan Line has asked a group of its creditor banks to give it urgent financial help to stave off bankruptcy, a company spokesman told Reuters.

Both Japanese shipbuilders and ship operators have been badly hit by the slowdown in world shipping.

Last August, Sanko Steamship collapsed with debts of 520 billion yen (\$3.19 billion), marking the biggest Japanese corporate disaster in history.

The spokesman said Japan Line wanted the banks to abandon hope of repayment on 20 billion yen (\$133 million) of loans and to temporarily shelve other loans.

The firm's total debt is estimated at around 200 billion yen (\$1.33 billion), said Tokyo Commerce and Industry Research, which supplies official statistics on bankruptcy to the Bank of Japan.

Industrial Bank of Japan, both the largest shareholder and largest creditor of Japan Line, will continue to financially support the tanker operator, a bank spokesman said.

A steep yen rise of some 40 per cent against the dollar in only one year has cut deep into Japanese shipping firms' incomes.

Sanko chose to seek court protection from its creditors under Japan's corporate rehabilitation law, which puts the future of the company into legal hands.

S. Arabia to announce new budget on Dec. 30

DAMMAM (R) — Saudi Arabia, hit by the fall in world oil prices, will announce its long-delayed budget for the new fiscal year on Dec. 30, Information Minister Ali Hassan Al Shaer said Monday.

The minister said in a statement carried by the official Saudi Press Agency, SPA, that all aspects of the forthcoming budget were discussed at a cabinet meeting chaired by King Fahd.

Timing of the budget, which will set spending plans for the kingdom's economy, had been the source of intense speculation in Middle East financial markets after two postponements in the past nine months.

Saudi Arabia's financial year had originally been due to start on March 11, but the sharp drop in oil prices forced a postponement since it was almost impossible to forecast the kingdom's potential revenue.

A second postponement in

August increased speculation that the Saudi riyal could be devalued a second time this year against the dollar, a move to boost the effective value of its oil exports when translated back into the domestic currency.

The riyal had been devalued on June 1 by 2.7 per cent to 3.75 to the dollar.

According to SPA's statement, the fiscal year will now begin on Dec. 30, effectively bringing it into line with the Gregorian calendar year.

This will simply budget planning since Saudi Arabia's huge oil and investment income is geared to the Western banking and oil markets.

The SPA statement made only brief reference to OPEC's (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) current meeting in Geneva where Saudi Arabia has been pressing for a minimum oil price of \$18.

Suez Canal income rises

CAIRO (AP) — This year's income from Suez Canal transit tolls, Egypt's third-highest source of foreign exchange, is 21 per cent higher than last year's despite a world shipping recession and the Gulf war, says the Suez Canal Authority's director.

In an interview published Monday, Mr. Ezzat Adel told the ruling National Democratic Party newspaper Mayo the \$1.02 billion income from January to November was \$181 million higher than the receipts for the corresponding period in 1985.

Mr. Ezzat told Mayo that the passage of more cargo ships and higher tolls imposed in January

accounted for the better canal earnings this year, compensating for a decrease in oil tanker transit.

Mr. Ezzat said the authority has decided to raise fees by 25 per cent for passage of military ships and their accompanying vessels.

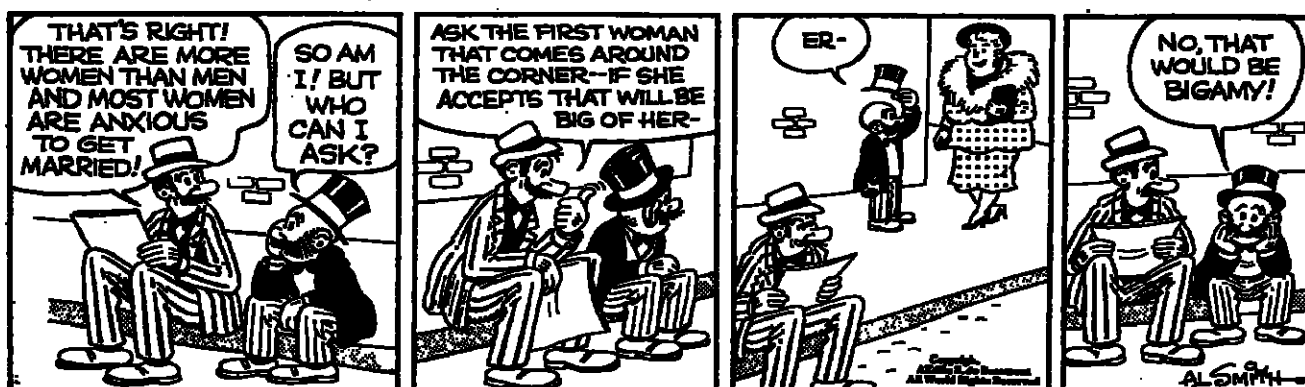
He said the increase was to meet "priority given to military ship convoys, in addition to extraordinary measures during their passage," Mayo said. The paper did not indicate when the new fees would be effective.

New transit tolls for 1987 announced two months ago included increased rates for small cargo vessels but reduced rates for oil tankers.

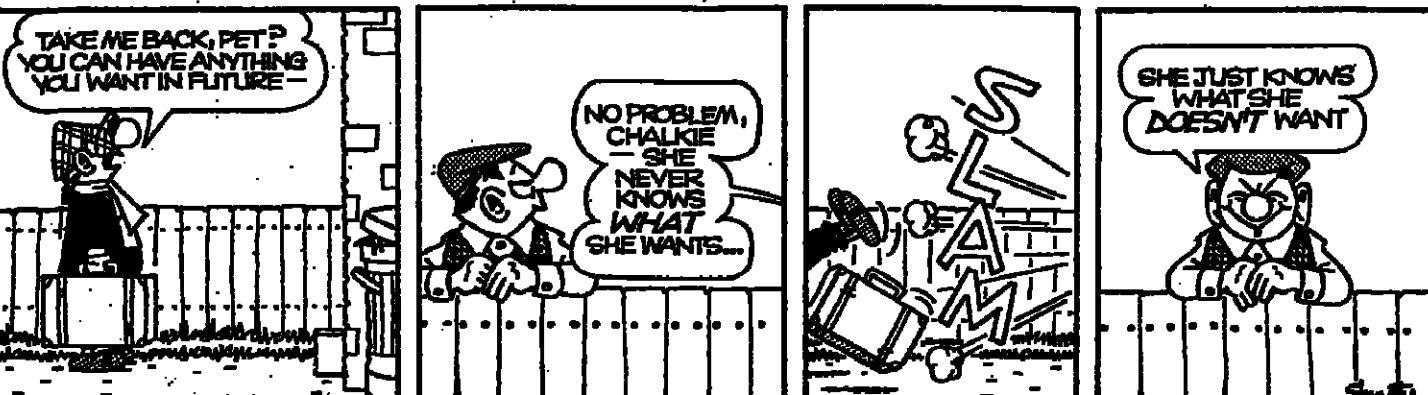
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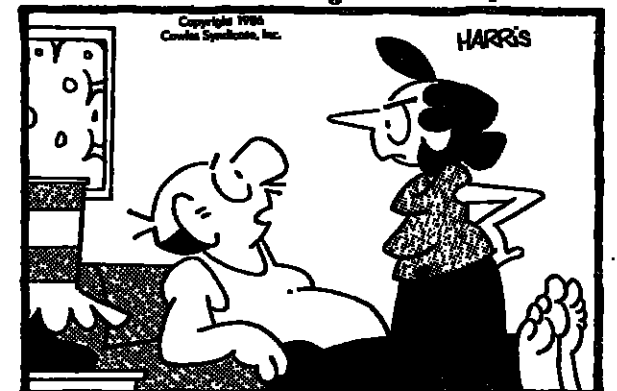
Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

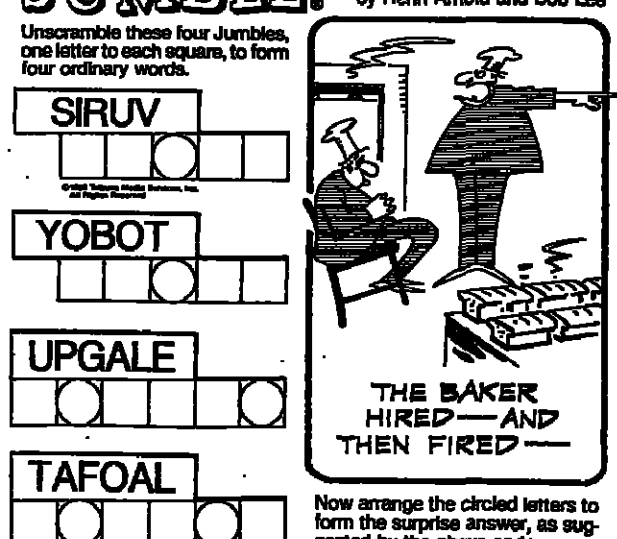


THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"Of course I never think about other women, Carol — I mean Harriet!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Print answer here: A "0000-00" (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumble: TYPED LUNGE BUCKET ACCENT Answer: He went to the shrink for this — THE NECK UP

Aquino, rebel priest discuss autonomy for mountain region

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A priest once described as the best-known rebel in the Philippines met with President Corazon Aquino on Tuesday to discuss the future of his Luzon mountain region.

Presidential spokesman Teodoro Benigno told reporters the Rev. Conrado Balweg and Mrs. Aquino discussed establishing an autonomous government for the Cordillera Mountain region, some 320 kilometres north of Manila.

Balweg is the leader of the "Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CPLA)".

"The president expressed the hope that all these efforts to set up an autonomous region will succeed and that her government is predisposed to exert every effort so that the people of the Cordillera region will be able to attain their dreams and aspirations," Mr. Benigno said.

Mrs. Aquino flew to the mountain area in September and signed a cease-fire agreement with Balweg's tribal army.

The Cordillera area is home to about 2 million members of ethnic tribes. Sentiment for local autonomy grew in the 1970s after former President Ferdinand Marcos announced plans to build a dam on the Chico River that

would have flooded ancestral homes and graves.

On Monday, the government and the CPLA agreed to form the Cordillera Regional Development Council.

Officials said the council will be turned into a self-governing administration if the proposed national constitution is ratified in February.

Balweg abandoned his parish in the Abra region in 1979 and joined with the Communist New People's Army (NPA) in a joint struggle against the Marcos government.

He was the best known Filipino rebel at the time because the Communists kept the identities of their leaders secret. He and his tribal militia broke with the Communists after the February ouster of Marcos.

Meanwhile the government news agency said Tuesday that rebels attacked a police station in northern Luzon, but a senior police officer said the incident did not involve Communist insurgents.

The officer, Maj. Edgar Paguio, told the Associated Press by telephone from La Union province that local civilians were involved in the Monday incident.

The civilians threw stones at a group of soldiers and the soldiers fired into the air, he said.

The Philippine News Agency said a group of "suspected" New People's Army rebels fired on a police station Monday night in the town of San Gabriel in La Union province, 225 kilometres north west of Manila.

The agency said Brig. Gen. Jesus De La Cruz, regional commander in Ilocos, told reporters about the attack during a meeting Tuesday. He said police returned the fire, but there were no casualties.

But Paguio said that account was not true.

"There was a misunderstanding," he said.

On Monday, the army said about 100 NPA rebels fired on a 19-member patrol at a base camp in Aklan province, some 375 kilometres south of Manila. It was the first exchange of gunfire since the 60-day truce between the government and rebels went into effect last Wednesday.

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Sri Lanka inter-rebel clash toll reaches 75

COLOMBO (R) — The Tigers rebel group, seeking to establish itself as the representative of Sri Lanka's Tamil community on the eve of peace talks, has inflicted heavy casualties on its main rival, residents said Tuesday.

State-run radio said about 75 people had been killed in fierce battles between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) in northern and eastern areas.

Residents said the weaker EPRLF suffered most in the fighting, which has raged since Saturday in the north and east. About 500 EPRLF members surrendered or were captured when the LTTE overran about 50 of their camps, the residents said.

As the government prepared to hold talks with Indian officials on ways to find a negotiated settlement to the island's ethnic conflict, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathudeni said LTTE's aim was to liquidate its rivals and set up a one-party fascist state.

In an interview on state television, he predicted it would "pounce" on the smaller guerrilla groups after eliminating the EPRLF.

Mr. Athulathudeni is in charge of military operations against guerrillas who want to set up an independent state for Sri Lanka's minority Tamils in the north and east.

More than 4,500 people have been killed in the three-year-old Tamil rebellion. The Tigers, who now control most of the northern Jaffna peninsula, effectively eliminated the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation last May after assassinating its leader, Sri Sabaratnam, and killing more than 150 of its members.

Indian High Commissioner Jyotindra Nath Dixit called on Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene Monday to confirm that two Indian ministers would arrive Wednesday for talks with him and other members of his government.

Soviets urge better China-Vietnam ties

MOSCOW (AP) — The reputed No. 2 man in the Kremlin, Yegor Ligachev, urged Vietnamese Communists to improve relations with China and warned that the Soviet Union wants to see better results from the money it provides Hanoi.

The text of Mr. Ligachev's speech Monday to Vietnam's sixth Communist Party congress in Hanoi was carried by the official Soviet News Agency TASS.

Mr. Ligachev, 66, is second in the hierarchy of the Soviet Communist Party, behind Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

In his speech, Mr. Ligachev also referred to the conflict in Kampuchea and praised "the sensible and fair policy of Vietnam."

The involvement of Vietnamese troops in the internal Kampuchean strife, is one of the key issues the Chinese government has raised with Moscow as an obstacle to improved Sino-Soviet relations.

China has called on the Kremlin to use its influence with Hanoi to end Vietnamese involvement in Kampuchea.

There also have been clashes between Vietnamese and Chinese troops along their border.

"The normalisation of relations between Vietnam and China would have a major positive effect on improving the situation in Asia, on improving the international climate on the whole," Mr. Ligachev said.

The Soviet official did not explain how Vietnam should go about resolving its differences with China.

"As to Soviet-Chinese relations, we have favoured and favour the development of good neighbourly relations with the People's Republic of China on the principled basis, without damage to the interests of other countries," Mr. Ligachev said.

He also issued vague criticism of the Vietnamese economy and Hanoi's use of Soviet funds.

"We are satisfied that our cooperation with Vietnam is moving toward more realistic ground, taking into consideration the real needs and possibilities of the Vietnamese economy," Mr. Ligachev said.

He said the Soviet government will continue to provide aid, but added that it is important for funds to be devoted so they "achieve the

most effective results."

Delegates to the congress have been discussing rumours of top leadership changes with Western reporters who have been allowed to cover the proceedings for the first time.

Lower-level government officials were pulling reporters aside to talk about reports that party chief Truong Chinh, Prime Minister Pham Van Dong and key politburo member Le Duc Tho, all would step down during the four-day congress that convened Monday.

The resignations, if true, would follow months of strong criticism of leadership failings, especially over economic policy. They would be the most dramatic changes in the Communist Party's 56-year history.

Mr. Chinh, 79, Mr. Dong, 80, and Mr. Tho, 75, head a list of aging revolutionaries in the 14-member ruling politburo. All were close associates of Vietnamese independence leader Ho Chi Minh, whose Indochinese Communist Party formed in 1930 was the forerunner to the present party.

They and Mr. Le Duan led the Communist after Mr. Ho's death in 1969. These revolutionaries fought French colonialists and Japanese invaders before defeating American and South Vietnamese forces to unify Vietnam under the Communist banner in April 1975.

Officially, Mr. Dong, who has been premier for more than 30 years, ranks just behind Mr. Chinh in the politburo. Mr. Tho is officially ranked fourth behind Interior Minister Pham Hung, but is believed to be second in terms of actual power.

The criticisms peaked at the opening session, where leaders said the party and government were guilty of serious failures.

The congress has drawn 1,129 delegates from all parts of the country, representing more than 1.8 million party members.

In April, a top party official told the Japanese newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun that then party Secretary General Le Duan would resign at the congress along with Mr. Chinh, Mr. Dong and Mr. Tho. Le Duan died in July.

The meeting of political leaders in Hanoi has changed the atmosphere in the city of about 2 million.

SON CHARGED WITH MURDER OF SUSAN CABOT

VAN NUYS, California (R) — The son of actress Susan Cabot, a star of low-budget action films in the 1950s, was formally charged with murder in the beating death of his mother last week.

Timothy Scott Roman, 22, was arrested after police found discrepancies in his version of events. He told police a burglar had knocked him unconscious and then killed his 59-year-old mother at their Encino home last Wednesday night. Roman, an art student, is being held without bail. A coroner's report indicated that Cabot died from blunt-force trauma to the head. Police declined to identify the murder weapon.

LAWYER CHARGED FOR ASSAULTING WIFE

SYDNEY (R) — A Sydney lawyer, charged with assaulting his wife for serving only vegetarian food, told a court he might continue to beat her until she gave him a square meal. He had lost his temper on a day that began with a breakfast of carrot juice and ended with no dinner prepared for him, he said. "This has gone on for at least six years," Robert Lindsay Walker, 45, said in a written statement. "My request for substantial food is ignored. I admit I hit my wife and I believe it will continue," he said. Magistrate Roger Davey found the case proved but did not convict Walker who had pleaded guilty. He was released on a 12-month good behaviour bond and told not to assault or molest his wife.

WOODY ALLEN NAMED BEST 1986 DIRECTOR

NEW YORK (AP) — Hannah And Her Sisters and its director, Woody Allen, were chosen Monday as the best movie and director of 1986 by the New York Film Critics circle. Diane Wiest, who played one of the title characters of Allen's film, was chosen Best Supporting Actress and Allen, who also wrote script, was runnerup for Best Screenplay. Hannah And Her Sisters also was chosen Best Picture in voting over the weekend by the Los Angeles Film Critics. The New York Critics named Sissy Spacek Best Actress for her work in another film about the relationship of sisters, Crimes of the Heart, and the best actor award went to Bob Hoskins for Mona Lisa. The Best Supporting Actor Award went to Daniel Day Lewis of the British film A Room With a View. Hanif Kureishi's script for My Beautiful Laundrette was voted best screenplay. The Decline of the American Empire, the Canadian movie in French directed by Denys Arcand, was chosen Best Foreign Language Film.

CHOCOLATE CHUNKS BLOCK SEWERS

TEL AVIV (R) — Sanitation workers have extracted more than a ton of chocolate chunks that mysteriously jammed sewers for ten days, spreading sweet odors through Bnei Brak, a municipality near Tel Aviv. Officials speculated that a hauler emptied defective chocolate in the sewers late at night rather than make the haul to an approved dumping site. They estimated clearing the sewers would cost the municipality \$130,000.

BOMB FOUND AT ABORTION CLINIC

NEW YORK (AP) — A powerful bomb planted at an abortion clinic Sunday by a man posing as a businessman misfired and caused little damage, police said. One blasting cap ignited and set off the building's sprinkler system, causing minor damage to an office, the police said. Police who arrived at the scene spotted the bomb and were able to defuse it in time, they said. The bomb, planted in a building housing the offices of Planned Parenthood of New York City, included 15 sticks of dynamite. It failed to explode because a second blasting cap did not go off, police said. The clinic and the offices were closed Sunday, and there was no one in the building, they said. "Had the bomb gone off, it would have absolutely destroyed the front of the building," said Lt. William McCarthy. More than 40 bombings have occurred since 1982 at abortion clinics around the country.

Former Brezhnev aide loses top post

MOSCOW (R) — Dinmukhammed Kunayev, protégé and close aide of late Kremlin leader Leonid Brezhnev, was dismissed Tuesday as leader of the Communist Party in the Central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan, Moscow Radio reported.

The radio said the 74-year-old Kunayev, also a member of the 12-man ruling politburo of the Soviet Communist Party, was released from his duties "in connection with his retirement" at a top-level party meeting at

Alma-Ata, the republic's capital. Analysts said his dismissal was a certain prelude to his removal from the politburo, the Kremlin's inner cabinet, where Brezhnev placed him in 1966.

Since Mikhail Gorbachev was elected general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party in March 1985 he has launched a drive for economic and social reform and many officials linked with Brezhnev have been removed.

Senior Gorbachev aides have described much of the period of

the rule of Brezhnev, from 1964 until his death in 1972, as one of stagnation both in the economy and in cultural and social life.

There had been strong predictions from semi-official Soviet sources before the party's 27th congress early this year, at which the Gorbachev programme was consecrated, that Kunayev would be dismissed.

But he and another Brezhnev appointee, Ukrainian Party leader Vladimir Shcherbitsky whose ouster was also forecast, survived.

U.K. MP CHARGES SECURITY PLOT AGAINST LABOUR

LONDON (AP) — An opposition legislator alleged on Monday that Britain's security services sought to destabilise the socialist Labour government in the 1970s and smear its prime minister, Harold Wilson.

Despite the sensational nature of the charge by Labour lawmaker Dale Campbell-Savours in the House of Commons, there was little interest in the debating chamber. No more than 30 of the 650 lawmakers were present for the start of a debate on the security services.

The government rejected demands "from the Labour opposition for reform of the security services and the Labourites did not press the issue to a vote."

Security issues are receiving widespread publicity during a court case in Sydney, Australia, where Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government seeks a ban on the memoirs of former agent Peter Wright.

Wright worked for Britain's MI5 counter-espionage agency for 20 years and now lives in Australia.

Mr. Campbell-Savours, who has led Labourite attacks on the government's handling of the Wright case, said that Wright's book gives details of the anti-Wilson plot and describes how Wilson's 10 Downing Street office was bugged by MI5.

Mr. Campbell-Savours said Wright's claim about MI5 and Lord Wilson is the real reason the government wants the book suppressed.

David Waddington, Home Office junior minister, said the government wasn't persuaded that there would be advantages in making any changes in the security system.

He said Labour's James Callaghan, who succeeded Lord Wilson as prime minister, said in 1977 he was satisfied the security services hadn't "undertaken electronic surveillance" of the prime minister.

Lord Wilson, prime minister four times before resigning in 1976, was quoted by London's Daily Mirror on Nov. 25 as saying in an interview: "number 10 was regularly swept for bugs. If it had been bugged it would have been very quickly discovered."

Jane's: Old propeller-driven planes are still useful

LONDON (AP) — Even in the world of Star Wars, old propeller-driven aircraft like the Soviet "Bear" long-range bombers can do certain military tasks better than anything else in production, says the editor of "Jane's All the World's Aircraft."

The 1986-87 edition of the respected aviation annual, published Tuesday, also stresses the importance of developing short-takeoff-and-landing aircraft because military tactics will direct firepower against airfields, and planes will be useless if they can't take off because of damaged runways.

Editor John W.R. Taylor, in the foreword to the 970-page book, wrote that U.S. President Ronald Reagan's "Star Wars" programme of space-based defences against ballistic missiles

dominated military thought in the past year. But he added that there were reminders that less advanced weaponry is still important.

One such weapons system is the long-range turbo-prop planes that have been in the Soviet arsenal for 32 years, Taylor wrote. The planes are used as bombers, reconnaissance planes or launching pads for cruise missiles, and are often seen along the U.S. east coast on patrol flights to Cuba, testing U.S. electronic surveillance.

"It is easy to dismiss 'Bear' as a lumbering relic of the propeller age," Taylor wrote. "In fact, it has remained in service for more than 30 years because there is still no aircraft that can do better the tasks on which it is deployed." Five years ago, U.S. satellites

discovered a Soviet supersonic missile-carrying aircraft, which NATO code-named "Blackjack," Taylor wrote.

But he commented that the Soviets have no "magic formula" to develop aircraft quickly, so "Bear" is still a mainstay, and about 200 planes are in action.

The "Bear" — which the Soviet Air Force calls TU-95 or TU-142 according to its mission — can carry the largest air-to-surface missiles.

Despite the age of the design, Taylor wrote, production was stepped up in 1984 with the new "H" model fitted to carry cruise missiles, and about 40 "Bear-H" planes were in service by the spring of 1986.

Taylor backedtracked on some of the concerns he voiced in earlier editions about the Soviets' ability

to develop high-technology planes and get them into service.

In the 1984-85 annual, for instance, he named the Sukhoi SU-27 fighter as one of several new Soviet jets that posed a threat to the West's air superiority.

But in the new annual Taylor wrote: "After nine years of flight development, reports suggest that only one modest first-line unit is equipped with SU-27s while dozens more sit around at Komsomolsk, waiting perhaps for their engines or avionics to be debugged."

The Jane's publication is one of the most widely read encyclopaedic references on the world's aircraft, and it relies on publicly available sources, Taylor wrote. The company publishes similar annuals on other topics, like "Jane's Fighting Ships."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ KJ982 ♠ KJ1063 ♣ Q95
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?
A. — With two five-card majors, you do not need the Stayman Convention to check on whether partner has four cards in either major suit. Simply jump to three spades. If partner rebids three no trump, you can bid four hearts to complete the description of your hand.
- Q.2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 7 ♣ K10542 ♣ Q96 ♠ A765
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
What do you bid now?
A. — Partner has shown a minimum opening bid with no particular liking for hearts. Under the circumstances, there is no need for you to do anything rash. A jump to three clubs would be game-forcing. Bid two clubs; the very fact that you are acting freely shows a hand that is better than minimum for your first action.
- Q.3 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ QJ9543 ♣ K10632 ♣ Q ♠ A75
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 1 ♥ ?
What action do you take?
A. — Only two calls come into consideration: pass and double. What you can't do is bid two hearts; that would be game-forcing. You could double one spade, but the auction is unlikely to die there — both West and your partner are short in spades, so one is bound to run. Pass, and see how the auction develops.
- Q.4 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 7 ♣ KQ9542 ♣ A8 ♠ 72
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
What do you bid now?
A. — Be careful, this looks like a misfit. You have no liking for either of partner's suits, and he could easily be short in hearts. You should bid your suit again, but we prefer two hearts to a jump to three. You have a maximum for a simple rebid, but we don't think you can make game unless partner bids once more.
- Q.5 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AJ954 ♠ 72 ♣ Q6 ♠ K987
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♥ 2 ♠ 2 ♥ ?
What action do you take?
A. — To overall vulnerable at the two-level, partner must have a reasonable hand. If he has a spade fit, your combined holding could produce a game. Bid two spades. You have a safety factor in that, if your partner doesn't like your suit, he can retreat to his suit and you have a useful holding for him there.
- Q.6 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ Q3 ♣ K102 ♣ 8763 ♠ A982
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
What action do you take?
A. — The auction has developed favorably. Partner surely has a six-card suit, so your queen must be upgraded, and both your side-suit cards should be working. At the very least you owe partner a raise to three spades.